



Committee:

Janet Quarton  
Sheila Clark  
Valerie Piacentini

Committee Assistants: Karen Sparks  
Helen White

December 1991

## Newsletter 19

"The glory of creation is in its infinite diversity and the way our differences combine to create meaning and beauty."

Honorary Members: Gene Roddenberry, Richard Arnold, James Doohan, Walter Koenig, John de Lancie & Marnie Mosiman, Mark Lenard, Michael Okuda, Susan Sackett, Marina Sirtis, Patrick Stewart, Rick Sternbach, George Takei, Guy Vardaman, Rupert Evans, Lorraine Kelly, Anne Page, Rick Parfitt.

.....



# GENE RODDENBERRY

19/8/21 - 24/10/91

Gene Roddenberry died at Santa Monica Hospital at 2.46pm (PDT) on Thursday 24th October, at the age of 70. He was in Santa Monica on a routine visit to his doctor after suffering a stroke a couple of weeks before.

In an interview he did for The Humanist Gene was asked how he would like to be remembered. He answered:

"That I had a great patience with and great affection for the human race. That I did not believe problems needed to be solved immediately, in present-day terms, and, strangely, that I had a philosophy that did not know what 'immediately' was. Perhaps 'tomorrow' is 500 years from now. What we humans are is really a remarkable thing. How can you doubt that we will survive and mature? There may be a lot of wisdom in the old statement about looking at the world lovingly. If we can, perhaps the world will have time to resolve itself."

## Janet Quarton:

What can I say? Gene was a wonderful human being and he gave us so much. If it hadn't been for Gene none of you would be reading this newsletter and probably very few of us would even know each other. Because of Gene I have made some very good friends who I can't imagine life without, but I grieve because I now have one less. Gene - thank you for everything!

## Sheila Clark:

Gene was a great man; a man of vision and imagination, a man with hope for the future. He will be missed.

Tributes are paid to many well-known people posthumously; I take a great deal of pleasure from the knowledge that some of the tributes paid to him and to Star Trek were paid in his lifetime - the first space shuttle was called the Enterprise (even although it never went into space); he was the first writer/producer to gain a Star; there was his humanities award; the tribute from the Trek actors that some of us saw at Silvercon; the Gene Roddenberry Building at Paramount, so recently named for him. There may well be more to come; but I think these are the most meaningful, because he saw them.

## Valerie Piacentini:

We all have our own memories and thoughts of what Gene Roddenberry meant to us, and what he brought into our lives. I have an absorbing hobby that has lasted for many years; loved and valued friends I would never have met without Star Trek; and perhaps a slightly different way of looking at things than I might otherwise have had. Gene was, above all, a very kind man; he made everyone who came into contact with him feel that they mattered. In a pessimistic age, he saw a future for mankind, a future that was filled with hope. There have been, and will be, many tributes and memorials for him. Perhaps the greatest will be the genuine sorrow of people who never met him except through his creations, but who know that something very lovely has gone out of the world. He gave us his dream; let's keep it alive for him.

## Helen White:

The universe has lost something special with the passing of Gene, and yet he hasn't really gone, for he will be in our hearts always. There is a great void in my own life; I feel the absence of something that I hadn't even realised was there. I shall never forget him.

Linda Wood:

For Gene Roddenberry, the Adventure is over.  
 He has gone from our midst suddenly,  
 Twenty five years after his dream, his foresight,  
 Began the Adventure for us all.  
 Now millions of people  
 Throughout the world  
 Mourn his passing.

Millions of people  
 Throughout the world  
 Of their own free will  
 Watched a television show  
 And saw far more.  
 They saw the kind of world  
 They would like to live in tomorrow.

They watched  
 And realised in what they saw  
 That not only are we one World  
 But also one Universe  
 United in the Miracle of Life.

They realised that brother should not fight brother;  
 Nation should not fight nation;  
 Religion should not fight religion;  
 And that Mankind will only become adult  
 When Humanity maintains this Truth.

Gene has given us this vision;  
 This is his legacy to the World.  
 Now it is left to us  
 Who still have Time on Earth  
 To strive towards the fulfilment of his dream.  
 For Gene, the Adventure is over;  
 For Mankind, the Adventure continues...

Russell Witheyman:

I woke this morning to hear the unfortunate news that Gene Roddenberry had died of a heart attack. I'm sure I speak for all when I send my love and sympathy to Majel Barrett and Gene's family. We will all remember Gene as the man who gave us the best gift in the world, Star Trek, and I'm sure Gene's dream will continue to flourish from this day until the next century. Star Trek will now be in the capable hands of people like Rick Berman, Michael Piller and all who work on the show at Paramount, who will continue to spread Gene's dream all over the world and, hopefully, the Universe. You will be sadly missed by all of us, Gene, but you will live on in our hearts and in the show you created - Star Trek.

God bless you, Gene.

Pippa Lightfoot:

I heard about Gene when I turned the radio on, setting off to work on 25th October. Completed journey in stunned and thoughtful silence. What can I say? Logically, I knew there would be a price to pay for letting a TV series into my life for so long as the characters behind it grew older, but it still came as a shock. My sympathy goes out to Majel, family and close acquaintances.

I couldn't really say that Star Trek has drastically altered the course of my life but it has certainly had an irreplaceable effect on my imagination, view of the future, and spare time. Taking into account the huge number of people whose

lives have been touched to a lesser or greater extent by one man's vision and ideals, you could say that Gene has acquired a unique type of immortality, and that no planned tribute or memorial could be as enduring as his effect on so many people's lives.

Christine Jones:

This is a tribute to a man and to the life he had,  
More than a memorium to his death;  
For by celebrating his life  
We keep his memory alive.

Gene Roddenberry had a dream,  
A dream which he shared with us.  
It was a dream of the future  
And what he hoped it would be like.  
That dream is still with us now,  
Twenty five years after he created it.  
In creating Star Trek he created a legend,  
And not many people can claim to have done that.

The Great Bird of the Galaxy  
May be with us no more,  
But his spirit will always be with us;  
And as long as we keep his dream alive  
He will never be forgotten.

Joyce Urquhart:

When you lose a friend you lose part of yourself. When you lose someone special you lose everything; but always remember God is with you till you meet again. Through Gene's creation IDIC lives on in the lives of others.

Miri Rana:

Great Bird of the Galaxy, now you have taken flight  
And you are wandering your starry sea.  
You brought us all such delight.  
The Star Trek theme ends "Remember me, remember me."  
We will, and your star will always be bright.  
Star Trek forever lives, as you will in our memory.

Sandie Cayless:

What can I say? We're bereft, all of us. The Great Bird has gone, but he's left us a legacy that will last for our life times and those of our children and grandchildren, and beyond. He made a mark on us, all of us, that can never be removed. Nor would we want it to be. But wherever he is now, we know he will always, in our minds, in our hearts, in our souls, live long and prosper.

Our thoughts are with Majel and family.

Fiona Rule:

The Great Bird of the Galaxy died today and Trek fandom is in mourning. How many lives did Gene touch with his creation, how many people owe him a debt? I'm one of those people and I'm proud to stand up and say that I'm a Star Trek fan. Without Gene Roddenberry there wouldn't have been any Star Trek and if there hadn't been any Star Trek, my life would be totally different.

That's no exaggeration either, because 11 years ago through Star Trek I made very dear and close friends. Friends that have stuck by me when things have been bad, and put up with my type of madness when I've been happy. To them I'd like to

say thanks and here's to the next 11 and more.

Trek fandom mourns Gene's passing but our loss doesn't begin to compete with the loss of a much loved husband and father, and our thoughts and love go out to Gene's family. Gene Roddenberry touched so many people's lives in so many ways that are impossible to imagine. I would not dare to try to sum up in a few words all that he was and achieved, but I will quote from Tasha Yar's eulogy.

"Death is that state in which one exists only in the memory of others, which is why it is not an end. No good-byes, just good memories."

Gene Roddenberry - we will miss you.

Miss E. D. Davies:

He gave us a show with imagination and flair,  
And inspired in us a dream for everyone to share.  
His creations we came to know, to us so  
personal and true.  
With characters you could trust, heroes  
and heroines all,  
Who fought evil and gave us justice for all,  
to see and cheer.

He showed us for once a future bright and new,  
One which no-one could despair of, and one in which  
You would gladly live, if only you could.

Unlike so many science fiction wares, that were  
Dark, gloomy and full of woe, of evil and death,  
And not a thing to look forward to  
For you or those yet to come.

But the heroes and heroines were never perfect, a fact  
That enhanced the show.  
Each person had their faults,  
And we loved them for it, warts and all.

So sleep now in peace, and God bless you  
For giving the rest of us a candle in the dark,  
That flickered gently on in 1966.  
And is still burning strong.

Mary Soon Lee:

I heard this morning of Gene Roddenberry's death. In his life his dreams touched the hearts and souls of millions of people the world over. He was a great spirit and a gentle being. I hope his dreams will never die.

Gloria Fry:

It was with great sadness that I heard of the death of Gene Roddenberry, the man whose vision of the future so captured the hearts of so many millions of people around the world. His dream, an optimistic ideal of Human integrity and love which embraces all cultures and species will hopefully will come to pass in some form in the real future. If it does, it will owe much to this one man, who cast aside the old Bug-eyed-monster theme in Science Fiction, showing us that to be alien and different does not mean an enemy, but... perhaps a friend. That we should respect each others differences and join together in peace to work for the good of all.

We - the fans - will never be able to repay Gene for the beautiful world of 'Star Trek'. It has given us many things, but speaking for myself, it has brought me much enjoyment, laughter, tears, and comfort as nothing else has ever done. For

that I will always be grateful.

Sue Embury:



"Gene Roddenberry, the creator of Star Trek, is dead." This simple radio announcement brought me up short on the morning of 25th October.

Gene Roddenberry created a TV show which meant more to us than entertainment. It expressed our best hopes for the future. A future in which humanity had learned to live in peaceful co-operation, not banishing racial or cultural differences but embracing and valuing them. No amount of political or religious speaking could have put this message across as effectively as the piece of popular entertainment known as Star Trek. Through his TV show, Gene Roddenberry reached a world wide audience, shared his own hopes and dreams with us all, and brought enjoyment to fans of all ages.

Gene Roddenberry lived to see his creation reach an even wider audience through movies and through a new TV series, Star Trek the Next Generation, culminating in the 25th Anniversary this year. It is natural and proper that we should mourn his death, but it is also appropriate that we should celebrate his life.

May his dream live for ever.

Greigg Harris

I was so sad to hear about Gene Roddenberry's death. I am sure a lot of people will agree with me that he will be sorely missed. But I will always remember him as a great man, who over the last twenty-five years has created and produced the best sci-fi series ever. It will not be the same without him. I am sure the Next Generation will carry on but will suffer without Gene, just as the third season of the original Star Trek did. Without Gene there would not have been any Star Trek or The Next Generation. This is a sad time for all Trekkers.

Edward Woo:

Roddenberry is an unusual surname by any standard; little did we know that it would become TV history with a programme called Star Trek in its early days.

Usually I get up for work at 8 am and don't bother with the radio or television. That Friday 25 October, 1991 it was just the same start but this time I had car trouble and was late getting to work.

The first I heard that Gene Roddenberry had died was when one of the managers said, "Are you in mourning, or wearing an arm band?" It seemed everyone else knew of his death but me. It was a bit of a shock and I had to wait till the 1pm news till I actually heard it myself on BBC1.

The following day's papers had articles about ST and Gene. The Guardian, Daily Mirror and Daily Express were the ones I saw. One of them had a comment from Valerie Piacentini and whether the BBC would be paying any tribute to Gene Roddenberry. I think one BBC spokesman said the continuing success of ST was

tribute enough. I feel that's not good enough as I would like to see the 25th Anniversary ST programme that was shown on U.S. television on BBC soon.

Gene Roddenberry is Star Trek. Unfortunately I never had the opportunity to meet Gene in person to say thank you for his efforts and imagination in creating Star Trek that has meant much to me and to all of us.

My personal sympathies go to Gene's family and to Majel Barrett at this great loss. The continued success of ST in the years to come is the legacy that the creator has left. He will go down in television history as a pioneer in creating good television fiction which gives hope to humanity, a role in the Final Frontier, contributing positively towards alien civilisations and contacts with other worlds, unlike many films today that give humanity a bleak future.

I hope Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country will be dedicated to the memory of Gene Roddenberry.

#### Mei Claessons:

Last week I heard that good old Gene has died.  
All fans on Earth, I think, like me have cried.  
He's gone where he had never gone before,  
His Enterprise has come, at last, ashore.  
Big Birds can die, we cannot close our eyes  
To this truth - but a legend never dies.

Survive and succeed - live long and prosper!

#### Barbel Schmidt:

I am sorry to learn today in the news that Gene Roddenberry died. But his creation of Star Trek will continue to live and evolve. I am sure that Gene's Star Trek made him immortal like Sir Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes and Shakespeare's classics. I liked it very much that both elements appeared in TNG. Now I hope that Gene's successors will follow the path and philosophy Gene created and supervised. I want to add my condolences to Majel Barrett. I am sad about his death but on the other hand I am happy and very impressed about what he left behind.

#### Carole Weatherall:

The Great Bird of the Galaxy is gone. There is never a time when we are prepared to hear of a death - although sometimes it is expected after a long illness and one believes they are at peace. I had known, like many people in fandom, that Gene had suffered a stroke, and noticed he used a walking stick when he was pictured with all the cast of both original and new series in front of the building dedicated to him; that of course was some weeks ago.

I was sitting typing a Star Trek story (what else?) when the news headlines came up at 2 am. I turned up the volume of the TV only to hear the newscaster say "The creator of Star Trek..." I immediately sat up expecting something to do with the 25th anniversary - how wrong I was, as he went on to say that Gene Roddenberry was dead and continued to show various trailers of original Trek. I sat there shocked and dumbfounded; I could not believe it. I immediately went to the phone to ring up my friend who lives in the next road - a born again Trekkie and insomniac - to ask her if she'd seen the news; she hadn't and I told her. I cried, I admit; she did later.

As one penpal wrote to me, it was the end of an era. Another said, "The Great Bird is dead, but as long as we watch Star Trek his spirit lives on."

My sympathy goes out to his family. He'll be sorely missed. It is a special

kind of man who can bring together a cast of actors to make a dream of Outer Space come to our screens; a dream which would later turn into a long-running phenomenon. A man of vision, indeed, and he will never be forgotten.

Star Trek gave me food for thought, fed my wildest imagination, made me put pen to paper, found me a special family of penpals and friends. It helped me through depression, and using Spock's logic is helping me to combat agoraphobia.

Kirk, though disciplined to command, was never afraid to show human emotion and compassion towards his fellow man; and Dr. McCoy was in many ways a philosopher. Thank you, Gene Roddenberry, for sharing your dream with us.

The Great Bird of the Galaxy is not dead; his spirit will continue to shine in all our universes. May Star Trek live long and prosper and feel peace in IDIC.

Cheryl C. Armstrong

The following is my tribute to a man who despite all evidence to the contrary decided the future was going to be (if not perfect) a better place, and that mankind is worth saving.

#### ODE TO GENE RODDENBERRY

He gave us our heroes,  
Kirk, Spock and McCoy.  
He created the Enterprise,  
Which none could destroy

He created a legend  
Which time could not dim.  
There would not be a Data,  
If it wasn't for him

He created a time  
When Earth was as one.  
Pollution was conquered,  
And hatred was gone

He took us to worlds  
Far away from our Earth,  
Gave us creatures so alien.  
Gave us sadness and mirth;

Gave us Klingons and Romulans,  
Ferengi and Borg,  
Gave us Q and the Vulcans,  
(And Geordi La Forge).

Then came Picard and Riker,  
The names just go on.  
Guinan and Worf,  
Dr. Crusher and son.

But one day in October,  
He got a call from above,  
Said, "I'm ready to beam up,"  
And left us with love.

But the Star Trek Universe,  
And the legend he left behind,  
Will continue to go boldly,  
To keep him forever in mind.



Some extracts from the newspapers:

One day, there'll be a star named for Gene Roddenberry. It should shine bright, radiate hope for the future of the human condition, and be able to evolve in a way that will remain relevant for generations to come...

Even a Klingon would weep at Roddenberry's death. His final frontier, ultimately, is a still-thriving enterprise that boldly goes where few men have bothered: into the limitless possibilities of the human imagination.

- USA Today 25/10/91

"We are all deeply saddened by the passing of Gene Roddenberry," said John Pike, president of Paramount Network Television. "He was a man of vision, compassion and imagination who looked to the stars and into our hearts. We will miss his wisdom and his talent." - Hollywood Reporter 26/10/91

As news of his death spread yesterday, colleagues paid tribute. "Few ideas in the annals of motion picture and television history have inspired more passion and allegiance on the part of the audience as has Star Trek," said Brandon Tartikoff the chairman of Paramount Pictures.

Leonard Nimoy, the actor who played Mr. Spock said, "He had an extraordinary vision about mankind and the potential of mankind's future."

Gene once wrote: "To be different is not necessarily to be ugly; to have a different idea is not necessarily to be wrong. The worst possible thing that can happen to humanity is for all of us to begin to look and talk and act and think alike. The best measure of maturity and wisdom in a human is the recognition of value received in hearing another say: 'I disagree with you for the following reasons...' The Times 25/10/91

Of his series Roddenberry once said: "Besides suggesting that there is a tomorrow, that there is challenge and romance in the world, besides suggesting that it's not all over, Star Trek said something else. It goes rather like this: You human biped thing called Man, you strange creature, still in a sort of violent childhood of your evolution, you're awkward and often illogical, you're weak, vain, but damn it, you're also gorgeous." The Independent 26/10/91

\*\*\*\*\*

#### JANET, SHEILA'S AND VALERIE'S LETTER:

Hi, everyone, and welcome to another newsletter.

This is a very sad time for us all. For twenty-five years Gene has been Star Trek and it seems strange to go on without him. And if it is hard for us, how much harder must it be for those who were close to him in their everyday lives. We extend our sympathies to Majel, Gene's family and his many friends - especially Susan Sackett, Rupert Evans, Richard Arnold, Ernie Over and the casts and crews of both Star Trek series.

Gene gave us so much, it seems very appropriate that we in IDIC should come up with some kind of tribute for him; deciding what is best is not, however, easy.

There are three organisations that we know of that are committed to granting wishes for severely handicapped or chronically ill children, and involving their families. In America there is MAKE A WISH; in Britain there are two registered charities, DREAMS COME TRUE and THE STARLIGHT FOUNDATION. We know that Gene loved children and took a personal interest in this type of work himself, and a collection could be taken to be given to one of these organisations in his name.

It was also suggested to us that we could ask the GDA to allow our current Guide Dog in training, Aero, to be sponsored in Gene's name rather than that of fandom, or have the next dog we gather the money for sponsored in his name.

Someone among you might have a better idea for a suitable tribute, however. We would be grateful for any suggestions that you might have, remembering that this is a tribute from the club not fandom in general; we will list all the feasible suggestions in the next newsletter and members can then vote on which one they think is best. You can send suggestions to Janet or Sheila.

Thanks to all of you who said you enjoyed the 25th Anniversary Special. We apologise to anyone who received copies of the special and the newsletter with patchy print. We recently bought a Cannon bubblejet printer which seems to have cured the problem with the zines but not, as we had hoped, the newsletter. The problem seems to be that we are trying to get about 3 times the recommended print run off the litho plates, so we had decided to use two sets of plates for the next newsletter; however Frank (the printer) now has a new printing machine and the plates are good for a print run of 10,000 so hopefully you will see an improvement in the quality of this newsletter. Unfortunately these plates are dearer, which will put up the cost of the newsletter but we are hoping we can cover the cost in our budget as we don't want to put up dues again. If we just can't cope we may cut the length of the newsletter to 80 or 84 pages - but keep your fingers crossed.

Coming into IDIC's 4th year we have a few organisational changes:

All members receive a renewal form with the last newsletter of their subscription. We will be continuing with this but we will no longer be sending out a second renewal reminder to those members who haven't renewed by the time that the following newsletter comes out. This is to reduce costs so that hopefully we will be able to maintain the length of the newsletter. Since we can only afford to print a few extra newsletters each time members are advised to renew promptly if they want to be sure of getting the next one.

Newsletter submissions: Please send all hand written articles, reviews, episode comments, postbag submissions etc. to Sheila and all typed ones to Janet. Janet is still the newsletter editor (Sheila is just helping with the typing), so if possible please continue sending cuttings, info and miscellaneous items direct to Janet. Quizzes should continue to be sent to Helen White.

Zine submissions (both IDIC and Scotpress) - please send Classic Trek submissions to Valerie and ST:TNG submissions to Sheila. Say if you have a preference whether it is printed by IDIC or Scotpress.

We do have a number of con reports, articles and reviews on hold at the moment. They are all typed up and we hope to use them in order of receipt, always allowing for balance of subject.

Please note that Janet's phone number has been changed to 0546 602605. This is due to the opening of a digital exchange in Lochgilphead.

We would like to thank those of you who sent in newsletter and zine submissions on disc - this is a great help to us - and we would also like to thank those who have volunteered to help with typing stories. Sheila will be in touch with you soon if she has not already contacted you. Just to reiterate, our computer can read ASCII text files on either 3", 3.5" or 5.25" disc from BBC, Amstrad WPC, IBM or PC compatible and some MS-DOS computers. One important point - PC compatible discs should not be formatted over 720K (72,000 bytes). All discs should be sent to Janet suitably packaged (the post office has already bent a 3.5" disc) - they will be returned. It is a good idea to put your name on the disc and also say which computer and format density you are using.

Our thanks to Frances Abernethy, Alister Bulman, Scott Carrick, Sheila Cornall, Peter Fryer, Kathleen Glancy, George D. Hallam, R.D. Holland, Bill Hupe, Muriel Jarrett, Birgit Jonsson, Robert Kirkwood, Ann Neilson, Cindy Philippi, Fiona Rule, Carla Salveta, Jean Sloan, Karen Sparks, Jenny Turner, Linda Watt, Gaile Wood, Eddie Yau and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten to mention, for sending information and/or cuttings.

Aero - Valerie and Sheila, along with Frances (from Sheila's Chain Gang), went to the Guide Dog training centre at Forfar on October 19th to see Aero. He's a beautiful big German Shepherd with some unusual light marks on his back. He'd only been two weeks in training at that time, but already he was showing up well, confident, friendly and obedient. (Jade, Aero's sister, has now also gone for training.)

Thank you to Frances Abernethy, David Banks, Sandra Blackwell, David Banks, Lynne Baxter, Joanna Brennan, Terri Briggs, Derek Clark, Lisa Dearnley-Davison, Anne Devrell, Karin Embacher, Andy Fegan, Jane Fenn, Mark French, George D. Hailam, Katrina Heintz, Bill Hupe, Muriel Jarrett, Ken Jeffrey, Robert D. Jones, Gary Leeke, Robert T. Kirkwood, Ruth Kurz, Nancy MacKay, John Marshallsay, Maggy, Gill Rainey, Ann Robertson, J Schmidt, Clare Solomon, Rebecca Stacey, Maggy Symon, Lesley C.E. Thompson, Jenny Turner, Elaine Wells, Helen White, Julie Woolaston, Gail Wood and everyone else who has donated money, collectibles, and/or used stamps for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

The closing date for the next newsletter is January 8th (January 3rd for anything sent to Sheila). We hope to post the newsletter out around January 29th but if bad weather prevents Sheila and Valerie getting to Janet's on the 10th it may be delayed until the 2nd week in February as it will have to be posted to them for proofreading.

We wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Guid New Year.

Janet, Sheila, Valerie 17/11/91

\*\*\*\*\*

## LATEST STAR TREK NEWS

compiled by Janet Quanton

### STAR TREK'S 25th ANNIVERSARY

The Star Trek 25th Anniversary Special hosted by William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy was shown on US TV on 28th September, 1991. We've no word on the BBC showing it but CIC hope to release it on video.

### STAR TREK VI

**WARNING:** We don't know how accurate the following is but don't read on if you don't want to know the storyline of STVI.

"Undiscovered Country" briefed by National Enquirer 9/10/91 by Geoffrey A. Shaw.

Opening film shows a moon that orbits the planet Kling blowing up, the Klingons find themselves without 80 per cent of their energy source and their ozone layer is heavily polluted. To save their people the Klingons talk peace. The Klingon leader says he will attend a Federation conference if Kirk and the Enterprise will escort him. Kirk objects as they were the people who killed his son, but reluctantly goes. Warmongers who wish the fighting to continue assassinate the Klingon president. Kirk and McCoy are blamed and are sentenced to life imprisonment on an icy planet, but Spock helps them to escape. Spock's loyalty to his friends is severely strained by his romance with Lieut. Valeris. The biggest shock of the movie comes when Spock learns she is one of the traitors behind the assassination of the president. Kirk arrives back in the Federation, in time to save the Federation president from being killed.

Kirk jokes, "Once again we've saved the universe as we know it." Kirk then makes a touching final entry in the ship's log. "This ship and her history will shortly become the care of a new generation. To them and their posterity will we

commit our future. They will continue the voyages we have begun and journey to all the undiscovered countries, boldly going where no man has gone before. James T. Kirk."

### STAR TREK on BBC

Star Trek: The Next Generation screening dates and ratings - the figures are taken from Broadcast:

45	4/9/91	Man Hunt (45)	BBC 2	Figures 3.75 million viewers.
46	18/9/91	The Emissary (46)	BBC 2	Figures 4.02 million viewers.
47	25/9/91	Peak Performance (47)	BBC 2	Figures 4.04 million viewers.
48	2/10/91	Shades of Gray (48)		
49	9/10/91	Evolution (49)	BBC 2	Figures 4.97 million viewers.
50	16/10/91	The Ensigns of Command (50)	BBC 2	Figures 4.97 million viewers.
	23/10/91	Football (Survivors scheduled)		
51	30/10/91	Who Watches The Watchers? (52)	BBC 2	Figures 5.07 million viewers.
52	6/11/91	The Bonding (53)		
53	13/11/91	Booby Trap (54)		

### STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

Fifth Season episodes - synopses by Terry Griffiths.

**Redemption II** - Written by Ronald D. Moore. Continuing the story begun at the end of the 4th season. Worf is serving in the Klingon fleet, fighting for Gowron against the Durass family. Picard must prevent intervention by the Romulans, whom he suspects of aiding the Durass faction. The commander of the Romulan fleet has an intriguing story to tell regarding her heritage. Guinan appears to back her story but Picard will not let it interfere with his mission. Data and Riker both get to command vessels, but Data's crew do not take kindly to being captained by an android. Worf is kidnapped by the sisters of Durass.

**Damark** - Teleplay by Joe Menosky, Story by Philip Lazebnik and Joe Menosky. The Enterprise encounters a ship belonging to a race who call themselves "The Children of Tarma". Other Federation ships have contacted them previously, but have reported that, even though communication has been established, comprehension is impossible. When the captain of the Tarmarian ship and Picard are stranded together, they must join forces to defeat an unseen enemy. Meanwhile Riker tries his own method of communication with the Tarmarians.

\*\*\*\*\*

## STAR TREK IN THE NEWS

compiled by Janet Quarton

The purpose of this column is to let you know which magazines to look out for as well as letting you know some of what has been printed in the papers. Most magazines are available from the book shops in the info sheets.

STAR TREK THE OFFICIAL FAN CLUB 82 October/November 1991. The Best of 25 Years of Star Trek Publishing; Interview with Brent Spiner; Rick Berman on TNG's 5th Season; Part 1 of a Spotlight on Yesterday's Enterprise, article on ST VI.

STARLOG 172 November 1991.

Walter Koenig talks about Chekov and STVI; Ralph Senensky talks about directing classic Star Trek; David Loughery talks about the rejected Starfleet Academy script; article about Sheri Lewis who jointly wrote Lights of Zetar

**STARLOG 173** December 1991.

Articles about DeForest Kelley, Jonathan Frakes, Carel Struycken, and Rick Berman.

**STAR TREK THE NEXT GENERATION 17** (Starlog)

Articles on Leonard Nimoy, Cliff Bole - director and Marina Sirtis; detailed transcripts plus photos of QPid, The Drumhead, Half-a-Life, The Host, The Mind's Eye, In Theory and Redemption.

**TV ZONE 24** November 1991.

Article on 'Parallel Earths' in ST; Season 5 of TNG; Reviews of Q In Law by Peter David and the original Star Fleet Technical Manual by Franz Joseph

**STARBURST 159** November 1991 - Fantasia - Article on Seatrek '91 by Wendy Scott.**CINEFANTASTIQUE** December 1991

Star Trek's 25th Anniversary - interviews with Gene Roddenberry and Harve Bennett; articles on Sea Trek and STVI.

**STAR TREK POSTER BOOKS**

Issue 7 - Articles on Data, Datalore and Angel One.

Issue 8 - Articles on Deanna Troi, 11001001 and Too Short a Season.

Issue 9 - Articles on Beverly Crusher, When the Bough Breaks and Home Soil.

"25 Years on the Final Frontier" TNG Cast at NSS Meeting Ad Astra September 1991  
Article about Star Trek and its history. The magazine also contains an article about the TNG cast meeting Vice President Quayle last May. The event was the National Space Society Board of Governors Weekend. The weekend began on May 2 with an afternoon reception that featured all surviving Mercury 7 astronauts, seven cast members from ST:TNG, NSS Governors and NSS Visionary members. The cocktail party was followed by black tie dinner honouring the Mercury 7. Saturday night's festivities began with hors d'oeuvres at the the home of U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, which was followed by a reception at the National Observatory.

"It's Kirk Over Picard" TV Guide (US)

We asked which one - James T. Kirk or Jean-Luc Picard - would you entrust with saving the Earth from hostile forces threatening it with extinction? 31,491 people responded and 60% voted for Kirk and 40% for Picard.

"Kim to Trek up the Aisle" Daily Mail 20/9/91

Article say Kim Cattrall has landed a role in STVI and that she gets to walk up the aisle with Spock.

"Keep On Trekking" Daily Mail 27/9/91

Article on ST's 25th Anniversary.

Look-In No. 39 28/9/91. Article on TNG and center poster of TNG crew.

"Star Trek: The Last Hurrah" National Enquirer 9/10/91

2 page spread which gives a sneak preview of Star Trek VI.

"Boy Genius set to Conquer the Universe" Evening Times 9/10/91

Article about Wil Wheaton and his first adult movie role in Toy Soldiers.

**Private Eye** 11/10/91

This says that the Clive James Show unwittingly broadcast a stream of obscenity. Jaw's satellite interview guest was William Shatner and when asked to sign off in Klingon he smiled and mumbled an incomprehensible phrase. Incomprehensible, that is, except to a number of Yiddish-speaking viewers, who claim that in translation the Klingon phrase means: 'Your dick in my ass.'

Daily Star 11/10/91 "I was a teenage rebel" says Trek's Crusher. Stardom saves Wil from trouble.

"Star Trek Old Guard Cross the Time Zone" Daily Express 14/10/91  
Article about STVI and as usual going on about the actors' ages. It did quote Walter Koenig as saying there might be a STVII.

"TV sci-fi fans cling on to Star Trek authenticity" Daily Telegraph 19/10/91  
Article about T'Kon at the Novotel in Coventry.

"Trekkies in for a spock of romance" Daily Star 22/10/91  
Short piece on Kim Cattrall saying she plays the Vulcan's sexy girlfriend.

"Leave Me Here, Scotty" Daily Mail 23/10/91 - as above.

"Ear, Spock" The Sun 23/10/91

As above but also mentions steamy scenes.

"Long-eared lover from Liverpool" Daily Mirror 22/10/91

As above but it says she marries Spock. "Spock's love scenes are very romantic."

"Spock was always my favourite Star Trek character - so smart and sexy. The thought of making love Vulcan-style was irresistible."

Star Trek 25th Anniversary Special Evening Post 23/10/91

4 page article covering original Star Trek and TNG with pieces about Gene, the Enterprise, Kirk and Picard. There is also a piece on the BSFR club but it mistakenly says BSFR puts out more publications than STAG - in fact they both put out 6 a year.

25/10/91

Most newspapers (except notably The Sun) printed articles on the death of Gene Roddenberry.

Today 1/11/91 lists STVI and 'The Far Country'.

"The secret Gene Roddenberry took to his grave... 'Star Trek' creator hated Capt. Kirk!" National Enquirer 12/11/91.

*[Janet: I'm disgusted by this article and also hurt that anyone would exploit Gene's death in this way. Gene was fairly outspoken and perfectly capable of saying anything he wanted to say. No-one has the right to put words into his mouth now that he is not able to repudiate them. I hope William Shatner feels he knew Gene well enough to ignore this article.]*

\*\*\*\*\*

## MERCHANDISE

compiled by Janet Quarton

### BOOKS -

Oct TNG18 Q In Law by Peter David. Pocket Books & Titan

Nov P57 T52 The Rift by Peter David. Pocket Books & Titan

Dec TNG19 Perchance to Dream by Howard Weinstein. Pocket Books & Titan

The ST:TNG Technical Manual by Michael Okuda and Rick Sternbach Pocket Books \$13.00 US (£9.95 UK from At The Sign of the Dragon). Bantam Press £11.99. This doesn't just including drawings - there is a lot of text as well. A must for the technically minded fan or anyone who wants to know more about 1701D.

Star Fleet Technical Manual by Franz Joseph. Titan Books, £8.99.

This book was originally published by Ballantine Books in 1975.

Star Trek : The First 25 Years by Gene Roddenberry and Susan Sackett.

Unfortunately we have heard this book has been cancelled or delayed indefinitely. We are keeping our fingers crossed that it will be published.

Star Trek: The Next Generation Poster Magazine. £1.50 per issue, now fortnightly.

**Coming Soon:**

**Reunion** by Michael Jan Friedman. The first ST:TNG Hardcover Novel - Captain Picard's past and present collide on board the U.S.S. Enterprise.

**The Classic Episodes Vol 1 - 3 1991 The 25th Anniversary Editions** adapted by James Blish. Bantam Books. \$5.99 each U.S.

This is a re-issue of Star Treks 1 - 12 by James Blish, now in 3 volumes, 1 season per volume and the episodes printed in production order. Volume 1 contains an introduction by D.C. Fontana, the prefaces from the original Star Treks 3 - 11 and the forward from Star Trek 12. Volume 2 contains an article by David Gerrold and Volume 3 an article by Norman Spinrad. Two episodes not in the books are Mudd's Women and I Mudd as these were originally published separately, along with an original Mudd story, in Mudd's Angels by Judy Blish.

**25th Anniversary Commemorative Plate** featuring Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Scotty, Sulu, Chekov, Uhura and the Enterprise is being advertised in some magazines. Price £28 (plus £1.50 p&p.) If you don't see an advert try writing to The Hamilton Collection, Marmion House, Copenhagen Street, Worcester WR1 2HB.

**The Klingon Cruiser** Franklin Mint £195.00.

Intricately crafted of hand-finished pewter, embellished with 22-carat gold and glowing emerald green crystals. Write for details to Franklin Mint, 138 Bromley Road, London SE6 1BP.

Note: In the States Franklin Mint have also produced pewter models of a Romulan ship, and a set comprising of the Enterprise, a Klingon and a Romulan ship.

**VIDEOS -ST:TNG**

SAMARITAN SNARE/UP THE LONG LADDER (22)

MANHUNT/EMISSARY (23)

PEAK PERFORMANCE/SHADES OF GREY (24)

EVOLUTION/THE ENSIGNS OF COMMAND (25)

THE SURVIVORS/WHO WATCHES THE WATCHERS (26)

THE BONDING/BOOBY TRAP (27)

THE ENEMY/THE PRICE (28)

THE VENGEANCE FACTOR/THE DEFECTOR (29)

THE HUNTED/THE HIGH GROUND (30)

Due Next

DEJA Q/A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE (31)

YESTERDAY'S ENTERPRISE/THE OFFSPRING (32)

SINS OF THE FATHER/ALLEGIANCE (33)

CAPTAIN'S HOLIDAY/TIN MAN (34)

HOLLOW PURSUITS/THE MOST TOYS (35)

SAREK/MENAGE A TROI (36)

The third season TNG tapes have the STVI trailer at the beginning (this is the collage from the series and movies).

\*\*\*\*\*

**ACTOR INFO**

compiled by Janet Quarton

Colm Meaney has a supporting role in a romantic adventure called 'Far and Away', a new film directed by Ron Howard. (info Starlog 172)

\*\*\*\*\*

## POSTBAG

We welcome your letters of comment and discussion for this section on the understanding that they will be printed and may be edited for length or content at our discretion.

Some pointers: When referring to anything in a previous n/1 make it clear what you are talking about for those who do not have that newsletter.

Keep your letters as short as possible - a maximum of 700-750 words or one of 'our' pages. If you find this impossible consider whether you should be writing an article instead. Longer letters will be edited for length. Where more than one person responds to a question with similar answers we may edit out some of these just so that we can get more in the newsletter

We encourage active discussion, but please try to avoid negative and aggressive letters.

Keep letters on a separate sheet from other submissions and put 'for postbag'.

### Sherry Golding - Orpington, Kent

I would very much like to see some stories concerning Chekov:

a) Perhaps he and Sulu, being on shore leave (a long one) decide to visit their present day Russia (23rd Century).

b) For some reason Chekov is swept back into time to Russia of the early sixties.

c) The USS Enterprise finds a planet identical to Earth's Russia which has some unusual difference.

d) Chekov is now a Captain of another ship. His adventures begin here.

I thought real hard about doing these myself but owing to tennis elbow injuries writing is difficult. Perhaps you people have the time??

### Eddie Yau - Hove, East Sussex

To Nina Lynch - I agree with you on 'Redemption'. The cliff-hanger was (or will be for those who haven't seen it yet) a let down, but it is worth seeing 'Redemption II' if you're a Data fan as he has a nice part in it. What will be good cliff-hangers (if rumours I heard are true) are 'Unification Pt. 1' and the last episode of the 5th season.

Regarding the cuts in 'The Icarus Factor' - I think it was right for the BBC to edit them out *for that time slot*. The answer, of course, is to put TNG on later! It's the logical thing to do!

To Gaile Wood - Data uses Energizer batteries (our American friends will understand that joke.)

To Russell Witheyman - my least favourite TNG episodes are (assuming you mean from the first two seasons only): 'Encounter at Farpoint', 'Justice', 'When the Bough Breaks', 'Coming of Age' and 'The Dauphin'.

To everyone - what is your favourite TNG quote? Mine has to be the near-legendary quote from Wesley in the episode 'Justice', where he said, *very innocently*, "There are some games I don't know how to play." I just cracked up!

To Martin Stahl - somehow Deanna Troi fighting Romulans or becoming Chief of Security would destroy the credibility of TNG. The only reason I say this is that the writers have written Deanna into a corner in my opinion. Unless she had a working phaser or threw rocks at the Romulans, she wouldn't have stood a chance in combat. 'The Enemy' is one of my favourite 3rd season episodes. If Deanna hadn't been taken out of the episode, it would have been ruined, and become my least



favourite.

I'm waiting for this 5th season episode 'Disaster' where supposedly Deanna gets control of the Enterprise! An apt title! I'd rather have my atoms scrambled in a transporter!

To Edward Woo - The Human brain is complex, but how far would medical technology have increased by the 24th century? Only the medical staff in the 24th century will know; we will never find out, we can only guess. Put it another way - if you went 4 centuries into the past and told people of today's medical technology, you would probably be laughed at or declared a witch and burnt at the stake.

Kirstie Jordan - Pilsey, Nr. Chesterfield

Thank you for another issue of the IDIC newsletter. I also really enjoyed reading the Anniversary Special - I failed the quiz miserably!

To Karen Davies - So you don't believe that Wesley being Picard's son is a possibility? If that is the case, then why did Picard take to Wesley so well (considering his dislike of children), and even make him an Acting Ensign? It has to go further than just his feelings for Jack Crusher - as implied in the novel 'Encounter at Farpoint'. And Picard and Dr. Crusher seem to know more about each other's pasts than either of them is letting on. I'm not saying that I think that Wes is definitely Picard's son, I'm just pointing out that it is a possibility.

To Bev Ambrose - So, a 'bum's' life is worth less than a senator's? Surely if even one tiny detail is altered in the past it will affect the future?

Consider that the wino in 'City On the Edge of Forever' decided to sober up and get married originally. Then he went on to father a future President! After all, Kirk and Co are hardly likely to know if he did or not, are they? The whole of America's future could have been changed beyond recognition because one 'worthless bum' died before he was meant to.

How did I guess that 'Shades of Grey' was going to be full of scenes from previous episodes? Wouldn't Riker's 'memories' have been a good way of showing us some of his past? His first meeting with Deanna for instance? *[Janet: A nice idea. Unfortunately they had lost a lot of time at the beginning of the season due to the writers' strike so they wrote the episode to utilise a lot of footage from earlier episodes.]*

Having just seen 'Ensigns of Command' am I the only one left wondering who these 'Ensigns' are, and what exactly it is that they are in command of?

As there are over 1000 humanoid life forms aboard the Enterprise, and no one wears any form of identification, how is it that everyone seems to automatically know everyone else's names?

Although I am pleased that Marina Sirtis has become an honorary member of IDIC, why was Wil Wheaton not asked? And if he was asked why did he refuse?

*[Janet: Helen was able to ask Marina because she sat at her table at the banquet and got to know her. If we had thought we would have asked Helen to ask a many of the actors as she was able to, but with one thing and another we just didn't think. The fault was ours, not Helen's. We did write to all the cast when IDIC was about a year old but only had replies from Patrick Stewart and Walter Koenig at that time.]*

Gaile Wood - Tamworth, Staffs

First things first - as a new member I want to say how much I enjoy the newsletters I've received so far. A hearty 'well-done' to the committee and all concerned.

Before I'm lambasted by folk - I want to point out I like all the characters in S.T. - Classic and T.N.G. - just some more than t'others. So, please don't take anything I might say to heart, as I've a reputation as a bit of a wag amongst people who know me.

All comments are in reply to Newsletter 18.

To Sheila - the precedent regarding cross-species disease is already here! With the possible exception of B.S.E., most do not cross those boundaries, and usually only if species are closely related e.g. Humans and chimps. I believe, but for a few very small differences in the way the amino acids are arranged in the D.N.A., we too would be still walking on our knuckles, and going 'ooh, ooh'. There are those who might point out we still are!

Your other point about speed/friction. Recently on B.B.C. 1 there was a very good 'Wildlife on One' which explored this issue in some depth. Apparently, all animals (including Humans) no matter what their size have approximately the same number of heartbeats during their lifetime. Shrew to elephant live at the speed appropriate to their species. So, I guess that proves you right.

To Kathleen Glancy - not so much the eye itself, but the optic nerve surely? I think restructuring nervous tissue is probably the more difficult task.

To Sue Embury, Kay Stagg and others - I agree. I recently attended my first Con, and it really is no place for small sprogs. I've got two myself (both reasonably house-trained) of pre-school age, and they would have been bored out of their trees.

Kay's point about creche facilities is very valid. The number of N.N.E.B. qualified nursery nurses would have to vary with the number of kids - and probably add to the cost of a Con detrimentally. And, let's face it, they're not cheap!

To Lloyd Lewis - I couldn't believe those creatures in 'The Dauphin' either. They were so bloody awful I had to rewatch the episode just to see if I could spot the seams.

To Laurie Haynes - thanks for pointing out these pitfalls. I'm sure plenty are guilty of these errors. However, when I decided to try my hand at writing, I acquired a book called 'The Right Word in the Right Place', a 'slim' volume as you can imagine. It has the most ginormous section on American English, and after reading this I decided I would write the way I knew. To put the wording in a character's mouth is hard enough, without worrying whether or not the content is correct.

And our cousins across the pond get things wrong too! For instance, the use in American English of 'gotten', which has disappeared from British English, and things like 'a long ways' - note the 's' - which a Brit. would never use. It makes it all very difficult.

My other point is in the 23rd/24th centuries, perhaps the two forms of English will have evolved away from each other. Language is not static, after all.

Also, if we are to believe S.T., then such things as speech patterns surely become redundant. After all, people would be citizens of Terra first, and then American, French etc..

To Clare Holden (and others) - Riker is very good to look at, but he's so smooth! I reckon he's been 'Sparkled' and rubbed to a high gloss with a soft cloth (please, ladies, no lewd thoughts about rubbing him down with an oily rag). Yes, the character has a sense of humour, and, yes, if it was a choice between my husband and Riker, there'd be no prizes for guessing who'd be trampled in the rush - but... well, you could trip over the bull. Personally, I think Jonathan Frakes plays Riker with tongue firmly in cheek.

To Jeff Martin - I agree about 'Dwellers in the Crucible.' These novels add a lot to the S.T. universe, and you'll not be surprised to learn one of my favourite Trek books is 'Pawns and Symbols'.

Cathy Halford - East Finchley

The best of Yule to all in IDIC.

To Jenny Turner - Another fan of the TNG novels - yes, some of them are excellent. I've spent no better lazy Sunday afternoon than the one reading Peter David's latest - 'Q-in-Law'. It's a romp, though not as powerful as his rollercoaster 'Vendetta', which took me only slightly longer to devour. I hope you enjoy it.

Some books are not "as good as the others", but I find it depends on what you're in the mood for. The authors have different areas of strength. Jean Lorrah's is cultural and historical detail - she knows her Trek, and I wasn't surprised to learn that she started off in fanzines.

Howard Weinstein's pushy environmentalism gets a bit trying; he's right, but he does it every time. It's a case of "OK, I agree, get on with the story", and the stories are usually good if you machete your way through the sermon. But Peter David has to be my favourite for now, with the kind of visual humour which gets me directing the scenes in my head. Not all the novelists can write teleplays, but I bet he could turn in a great TNG script if asked.

To Margaret Connor - As far as I can remember you're right; it was Data's shutdown and re-boot which helped Geordi solve the Enterprise's computer trouble in 'Contagion'. I think Gilden was slightly off track in 'Boogeyman'.

To Elena Bond - When I first read 'Masks' I thought Picard's characterization was up a creek where all is brown. Since then the sexy Captain has met Vash a couple of times, and this novelized Picard seems a more credible interpretation. Jon Vornholt wrote a good story, but at the time Picard's fling with Piercing Blade jarred; so you can either say that Vornholt got it wrong, or claim he was a da Vinci and ahead of his time. Re your suggested relationship between Riker and Kree'l Kwalrak - ha ha ha, Peter David's not the only one with a sense of visual humour, is he!

Finally to Gaile Wood - re Data and his battery intake: Thanks. I was wondering what to ask for this Christmas.

Allison Blandford - London

I've never been to a convention because they all seem so far away. Why are there never any conventions in London? Conventions in places like Scotland or Manchester cost too much to get to. Even if I could get to them I would prefer to go to ones that have William Shatner as a guest, unfortunately people responsible for conventions don't say who the guests are. I'm sure I'm not alone on this subject.

My main ambition is to meet William Shatner face to face and unless I know of more conventions nearer to home with W.S. as a guest, my ambition will never be fulfilled.

*[Janet: Wherever you hold a convention 75% of card carrying fans (not counting the local people who may attend on day registrations out of curiosity) will have had to travel a distance. Being willing to travel is part of conventioning.]*

*Convention organisers do announce their guests when they have them confirmed but an actor guest can never guarantee that he will not have to back out at the last minute because of work. William Shatner was a guest at a British convention a few years ago and hopefully we will see him again. However he is a busy actor so it may be difficult for convention organisers to get him at the moment.]*

Margaret Rainey - Harefield, Middlesex

To Allison Blandford - Spock wasn't talking about London being a 'popular' city in Wolf in the Fold'. What he actually said was that London was the most 'Populous' city of Old Earth, i.e. the largest. One is correct, and the other's a matter of taste! Oh, and according to Bill Shatner (who should know) the 'T.J.' in Hooker stands for 'Thomas Jefferson'.

To Nina Lynch - yep, Geordi is definitely wearing the wrong uniform at the end of 'Yesterday's Enterprise'... spot the cuffs! Black mark for the Continuity Department!

To Richard Fuller - I'm afraid I have to disagree that James Doohan has done 'perfect justice to the Scots accent'. Firstly, *which* Scots accent are we talking about .. West Coast? Glaswegian? East Coast? Fife? Lowland? Aberdonian? Highland? Shetland? etc. etc. There are so many variations in accent even within Scotland, that it's not unknown for Glaswegians to have trouble understanding Aberdonians, or vice versa! This of course makes it almost impossible for 'foreign' actors (among whom I include the English) to perfect a 'Scottish Accent'; most of them only master the rudimentary 'generic' sounds like the glottal stops and vowels, but never manage the subtleties that make it sound authentic to the native ear. I haven't come across a non-Scottish actor yet who sounds genuine to the Scottish ear when attempting to sound like a Scot, and I'm afraid Jimmy Doohan is no exception to this. I'm not carping, mind you .. I like the character of Scotty; I just wish non-Scots would realise that if you plonked 'Scotty' down in the middle of Argyle Street in Glasgow, he wouldn't pass as a native for sixty seconds! Unless he kept his mouth shut ...!

To Mrs H M Bickley - when you get to see the 4th season episode 'Brothers', you'll be able to see that Brent Spiner's eyes are blue ... he plays Dr Soong without the gold contact lenses.

To Kay Stagg - Hallelujah! Somebody's finally come out and had the guts to say what I've thought for years now .. that children have NO PLACE running amok at cons. As an attendee who's had to put up with babies crying during guest talks, and as a steward who's had to prevent havoc in the corridors, lifts and stairwells of various hotels over the years, I heartily endorse Kay's views. Once they're old enough to take an interest in what's going on and participate as con-goers, by all means, bring the kids along; but until then, please spare us the pleasure of their company!

To Sheila Clark - re your views on Patrick Stewart being 'up there' with the Greats, what can I say, other than you have Exquisite Taste!! The big question is, will he ever come home again and allow us to appreciate his talents first-hand, or are we doomed forever-more merely to admire from afar?

A last general point - what are we supposed to *do* with all these perishing CIC video stickers?!! If, as I do, you've been collecting both Original and TNG videos, you will now be (as I am) up to your eyeballs in stickers you don't need. I've already used several to get the merchandise I wanted, and am now wading through more stickers than I ever wanted to see .. six this month alone! Is anyone operating a re-distribution scheme for excess stickers, or will I just have to let them decorate my tapes forever?

Lesley Hatch - Warley, West Midlands

To Lloyd Lewis - 'Quantum Leap' is a series which basically involves a combination of time travel and body-switching, the reason for which I am not too sure about, but the main character finds himself in a different body and time zone for each episode, and has to perform a specific task, which is not always known to him. Having only seen one episode of it, I'm not well up on the finer details, but that's the basics.

To Jenny Turner - I've read 'Boogeyman', and I enjoyed it up to a point, but there is one thing which niggles me about it, and that is very early on, when a

female ensign is relieved by Wesley, someone refers to her as 'Mr .....' (whatever her name is). I don't think I've ever seen that done in any of the television episodes. I've also read 'The Eyes of the Beholders', which I enjoyed, and I can recommend 'Metamorphosis.'

To Simon Trick - Regarding stardates, the original idea was created by Gene Roddenberry way back in the days of original Trek. What he did was to allocate a stardate to the beginning of each episode and then change it slightly but always chronologically as the filming progressed. Unfortunately, the network showed the episodes in a different order, and so the stardates bore no relation to each other. Gene got around this problem by saying that the reason the stardates were so different was because the Enterprise was in a different part of the galaxy and conformed to a 'local time' while they were there.

#### Heather Gibson - Glasgow

Hi to everyone in IDIC - especially to Katrina Heintz, thanks for the mention in your Silvercon report. Silvercon was my very first convention too and I thoroughly enjoyed it. All the guests, especially John de Lancie, were great and I was surprised how at ease they were with the audience, just wandering through the crowds, and they were so patient!

I felt it was kind of sad, though, at one point to find the Classic Trek video room deserted. It was the start of all this and I felt it was being neglected somehow (maybe I was in a melancholy mood) in favour of its more - sophisticated offspring. I know most of you lot have it all on video anyway, so that would be the reason. I still thought it was a bit sad. I watched (as a three - four year old) the first showing of Star Trek, (in fact I used to get frightened by the ghoully face at the end of the credits and always hid from it - but I always watched the rest of the programme despite this) and I can't remember a time when I didn't watch Star Trek, but being so young I've forgotten most of it. I then spent 6 years of my life in Kuwait, so in effect most of the Classic Trek is brand new to me (goody, goody).

To Janet - Yes, yes, yes your concept of IDIC is really what it's all about. In order to go forward humans must learn to accept and respect each other's differences and individuality; to blend everybody into a kind of global melting pot would destroy all the rich cultures that have arisen on Earth into a bland conformity and ultimately threaten the individual. Who wants to conform anyway? If you like ST enough to be in IDIC you're being individual. Vive le difference!

I agree that comments should not be destructive, and why is James Kirk getting all the flak anyway? So he's not Picard, who cares? I agree with you, Kay Stagg - if it wasn't for the originals (and the fans who loved them) we wouldn't be here.

To Karen Davies - your comments about being horrified about the concept of TNG rang really true. I refused to watch TNG on video because I thought nobody could replace Cap'n Kirk, Spock and Scotty and Co. I only watched it as a mild sort of "Let's see how much rubbish this really is" and was extremely pleasantly surprised. I was hooked as soon as John de Lancie came onto the screen - it was exactly the kind of daft story that used to go in the Classic series and I felt at home immediately. I still can't summon up any great attachment for the new Enterprise - if it blew up I wouldn't shed tears like I did in ST:TFSF - but Patrick Stewart is extremely sexy and I am looking forward to seeing him in that blue-grey shirt.

My favourite characters in TNG are Riker, Troi and Picard. I'm especially interested in the Riker/Troi relationship, and know there is a body of folks who think they should be "back together". Speaking as one who has had an extremely close relationship with a male friend without sex ever being an issue, I can tell you that in many ways it is a much more rewarding and strengthening relationship. Of course they love each other but it's the love of good friends. I don't feel it's handled correctly at all, which is partly due to the fact that ST writers don't seem to know what to do about Troi in general. I mean, fancy giving all her lines to Guinan if Whoopi Goldberg happens to be available! I'm not knocking

Guinan, she is a very attractive character, but Troi's empathic abilities should make her the emotional and psychological expert. She is the one who has to sit through not only her own fears and anxieties but Riker's, Picard's, Worf's strong aggressive feelings and the rest of the god-damn ship. I admire the woman, she must have very strong self discipline to block that lot from her mind! Expressing and using emotions correctly is the greatest challenge a human being can face, and strengthens not weakens a person, therefore I think Troi should be written some appropriately stronger material (something like losing her mental control and going mad with all the emotions she can't block out?) and be on more Away Teams.

To Elena Bond - now come on, really - Kwalrak and Riker? It's a bit much, she of the bald patches, leathery skin and spindly legs. I agree with you about 'Masks'; I think it's a shame that Jean Luc doesn't have some fun more often, he's beginning to look like a stuffed shirt.

To Christine Snow - very funny, your story about the Tribbles being reseeded by the Preservers, who misheard their "gentle tribbling" sounds as "Beam me up I'm Scottish", gave me a real laugh.

Why isn't Clive James a member of IDIC? In his article heralding his new series in the Radio Times he mentions ST no less than 4 times without any apparent reason, he also had Bill Shatner on the show and mentions he was a "real fan" and it was "a really big thing" to have him on (at least somebody thinks so!)

To Anne Peters - yes you are right, ST in only a TV show and should enhance our lives not take it over. I get a lot of fun out of both ST and TNG, and the Away Team meetings I go to are a day off from life, but I like my life to still be there when I get back. *[Janet: One problem - can anyone explain how you can run a ST club without ST taking over your life?]*

I would just like to finish in total praise of Make It So 3 & 4. I bought them with the intention of discovering the standard of work, so I could assess my chances of submitting work, and found I was thoroughly enjoying myself and moved to tears on two occasions. The story of McCoy visiting the holodeck was so poignant and written with great love and attention to detail, and the story of Tasha's horrific childhood was very moving. I'll be buying 5 & 6 and whatever else you have next Away Team, Sheila!! *[Janet: Sorry we could make it on October 27th but we hope to be there on December 8th.]*

Has anybody read Star Wreck - I can't make my mind if I like it. But then I liked STV.

#### Matthew Conway - Lambourne, Berks

I've just received my first copy of IDIC (n/1 18) after much prompting from another of your members, Lisa Dearnley-Davison, to join up, and I'm rather glad now that I did. 84 pages (and a 25th anniversary special this month to boot) for £6 per year is a bargain these days, and I'll certainly be recommending IDIC to my other Trek-fan friends just as Lisa did to me.

It seems to be a tradition among your readers to let their opinions on Trek fly at a fair rate of knots, so I thought I'd join in immediately with a few comments based on n/1 18's postbag.

Re: Geordi's sight - I too was under the impression that Doctor Pulaski had offered him the opportunity for cloned replacement treatment sometime during the second season of TNG but that Geordi had turned her offer down. Although Pulaski made it clear that the treatment involved a degree of risk, however, Geordi's refusal of Riker's gift in 'Hide and Q' would suggest that it's not merely risk that has prevented him from replacing his VISOR with normal eyesight. Rather, he's lived with the VISOR for so long that it's become a part of him, and it's probably fair to say that even a danger-free operation with a 100% success rate wouldn't be sufficient to entice him.

Re: Data's possession or lack of emotions - I quote Data from 'Ensigns of Command': "I do not have any feelings at all." He goes on to repeat this to Picard later. And in The Official Fan Club Magazine No. 82, Brent Spiner says of the character: "I don't think the word 'feel' really applies. I don't know what the word would be for what it is that he experiences - he senses, maybe. But it's not feelings. And I don't think he ever will have emotions. I think he will have something else, but I'm not sure exactly what they would be called." With such definitive statements from both Data and from the actor who's played the role for more than four years and therefore knows him better than anyone else, I don't think there can really be any argument over the fact that Data doesn't have emotions, and to suggest otherwise is merely wishful thinking. (Also, compare Data's reaction when his relationship breaks down at the end of 'In Theory'. Is this the reaction of an emotional being?)

For all that Data has no feelings, however, he's most definitely alive and sentient. And I don't think it's too complicated to bring the concept of a soul into the argument. After all, with so much confusion and uncertainty over what the actual definition of sentient life is, we have little choice but to rely on near-religious terms for the time being. Data does have a soul, without a shadow of a doubt. And Picard agrees (see 'The Ensigns of Command' again), so that's good enough for me.

Re: Karen Davies - I'm sure Data's arm didn't leak when it was removed in 'The Measure of a Man' because his parts are self-contained units with their own independent fluid supplies. How otherwise could Lore be left in disassembled cold storage for twenty-six years and yet be put together so relatively easily in 'DataLore'?

Re: Lloyd Lewis - There is a new series of Red Dwarf being made, but still only six episodes. When are British producers going to realise that six is too few, and that America has got the right idea in making twenty-six shows per season.

Re: David John Thorne - I also disagreed initially with the return of Denise Crosby, but having watched 'Redemption', heard of the events in 'Redemption II' and taken into account 'Yesterday's Enterprise', it all seems to hang together rather well. I still don't know that the story was entirely necessary to bring back an actress who made a big mistake in leaving the show and now wishes she hadn't, but at least the producers didn't make a mess of the whole thing.

#### Pam Baddeley - Farnborough, Hants

To Simon Trick: people may be more than the sum of physiological processes but all the evidence shows that there is a feedback mechanism between biochemical processes in the brain/body and a person's emotional state. However, just because biochemical processes in the brain are the mechanism that enables us to experience emotion, this does not invalidate our emotional experience. It is just the 'nuts and bolts' part of our physical equipment; presumably you would not view the process of digestion, the acids, bile and other chemicals necessary as invalidating our experience of enjoying food? Or the complex adjustments and 'burning' of energy in muscles to enable us to walk? These are all means to an end. Our experience causes an ongoing process in the brain and the result is that we experience emotions appropriate to our experience. This can be more clearly seen when the process is interrupted or upset by mood altering drugs or in people with illnesses like manic/depressive disorder. Certain chemicals have been identified which are produced as transmitters or act as receptors to transmitter chemicals, and an excess or deficit can cause inappropriate emotional states, wild swings of mood, etc. It is only partly understood but it is clear that biochemistry underlies what we perceive as a non material event. But, as I said previously, it does not devalue the emotions; it is merely the underlying mechanism that makes possible such noble sentiments as Simon mentions, to which I would add the ability to appreciate beauty whether in nature, art or in other people's personalities. And even the little known is a fascinatingly complex subject that makes you wonder at the miracles of nature.

To Liz Caldwell. We must be in a select minority! I've read some pretty negative reviews of 'The Royale' and can see why it is unpopular but personally I enjoy the humour and love the way Data takes to gambling with such zest. Emotions or not, he certainly gives the impression of having the time of his life!

To Ann Peters: maybe I missed the incident to which you allude where Bill Shatner said "Get a life" to someone. Instead, I read recently, in an old issue of Galaxy Class, that Brent Spiner visited the bookroom at a Creation Con and said the same thing to a woman who passed out at the sight of him! He came in for some stick in the magazine. You can't help wondering if these stories are Apocryphal. *[Janet: A while ago William Shatner did do a skit on ST conventions in Saturday Night Live and this is where he said "Get a life"]*

To Helen Wimble: I haven't received my copy yet but I was given this address and phone number to obtain a copy of 'Ol Yellow Eyes is Back by my local record shop: Albany Records, PO Box 12, Carnforth, Lancs LA5 9PD. Phone: 0524 735873. Cost was £6.99 for the cassette, £11.99 + VAT for CD. Although the album is on Bay Cities, this label is owned by Albany Records, apparently. I sent for a copy of the cassette in mid September but have not yet received it. The man I spoke to questioned me about the magazines in which I had seen it advertised; apparently, Albany is a classical label and they are not used to such fannish attention. Maybe this is the reason for the delay. I phoned them today - 20/10/91 - and they have not had the shipment from Bay Cities, who they say are unreliable.

I did not take to 'Up the Long Ladder' at all. I found Riker's anti cloning speech pretty surprising and smacking of intolerance. I've read that it was intended to be a "right to choose" statement but it did not affect me like that at all; perhaps because their view of cloning is rather different from mine. As far as I am aware, the cells would have to grow at normal speed so it would take 9 months to grow to term and then be "born" from whatever artificial uterus was used to sustain it, and grow up as a normal child. In other words, no clone could ever be "another Riker" or whoever since the copy would have different experience. Only the inherited factors would be the same; if someone had a gift for music, for example, the clone would probably be musical too but the personality would be somewhat different since we are a combination of both "nature and nurture". Therefore, they should have destroyed cell cultures rather than the incomplete adult bodies (admittedly less dramatic but it is such a cliché of "B" picture type SF to have clones depicted in this way; it really annoys me). I thought Riker's objections were pretty histrionic frankly. I also wonder how Irish members viewed the other colonists; they struck me as the typical clichéd Hollywood idea of the Irish people as seen in countless old films over the years. One of my least favourite episodes.

By contrast, I really enjoyed 'Peak Performance' even through Pulaski's high handed attitude towards Data did not endear her to me. I thought this episode had the balance just right; action/adventure and the character interplay with Troi allowed to play her normal role (even though she is not successful in reassuring Data). Which brings me neatly to my last point: I was rather appalled to read in the Silvercon report how Guinan is given Troi's lines; what more of an admission could the producers make that they consider the two characters interchangeable? What a tough deal for Marina Sirtis. She has a chance to show a bit of the humorous side of Troi's character in 'Peak Performance', when she is talking to Data after he has returned to duty, and I feel if they allowed her to do this more, the character would be far more rounded and be less subject to criticism by viewers and to being called "an emotional wet blanket". She had a real air of mischief about her which was quite charming and it is a pity they do not bring this out more - and that they do not write proper lines for Guinan. The problem of Whoopi Goldberg's erratic availability should not be allowed to detract from the role of a series regular; I am quite sure they would not treat one of the male regulars in this way!

Barbel Schmidt - Crooks, Sheffield

I liked your newsletter very much and I was especially impressed by the



special edition. It gave me lots of new information but also the newsletter had some surprises for me. I have always been wondering what Riker's middle name is. Rumours were getting around that it was Tiberius again until I read in one of Starfleet Command's newsletters (Berlin) that it is not Tiberius but they didn't know what. Thelonus, well, I can now understand why it was never mentioned in the series so far. I was also amused to learn that Picard's fish also has a name and even a very good one.

What I enjoy most of your newsletters is the postbag and your reports about conventions and interviews. Now and again it gives me some information I haven't heard from Starfleet Command or from other sources, and I always like to read about opinions the actors and other fans have. The only thing I regret is that you don't write more about the latest episodes of TNG, but you already said why in one of your previous newsletters.

Star Trek also influenced my life a lot. I remember the time when I was about 12 and Star Trek first appeared on TV in Germany. Unfortunately my father always wanted to watch sports on the other channels so that I could only watch the last 10 minutes. But nevertheless the series fascinated me and I was very glad when I could watch it years later without any interruptions.

I became a real fan later when I saw the first episodes of Next Generation. I remember very well that I was very sceptical at the beginning when one of my pen pals in the USA introduced it first to me. But I quickly overcame my prejudices when the video series was starting in Germany. Now I am always very happy when I get a new cassette with the very latest episodes from one of my friends.

To Allison Blandford: I agree that it is unfair how William Shatner is treated sometimes. I prefer Picard to Kirk; there are parts of Kirk's character I didn't like much in the old Classic series, though in general Kirk is a good captain. I would certainly not say to a Classic fan that his or her opinion is wrong. I also respect it when someone prefers Kirk. Why not, Kirk is intelligent, brave, loyal to his friends and has a sense of humour. These and others are qualities that make him a good captain. And we shouldn't forget that without Classic there would never have been Next Generation.

I was amused when a speaker on TV announced a movie with Sean Connery with the words: "He is like old wine. The older he gets the better he becomes." How true! I prefer the Kirk of the movies. He is still in some ways the Kirk of the old Classics but more mature. I say we all age and we should judge people how they deal with that.

To Eddie Yau: I like both doctors but I prefer Dr. Crusher. What I didn't like much about Dr. Pulaski was that she seems to me a female copy of Dr. McCoy in many ways and that limited her character too much. I don't think that Dr. Crusher is less respected, they are both professionals and can both be quite headstrong. I am glad that Dr. Crusher returned but I like it that Dr. Pulaski may guest star now and again in the fifth season.

Graig Harris - Atherstone, Warks

This is my first letter I have written to you and I have only been a member of your club for a short time. The two newsletters I have received so far have been excellent; the postbag section is good, it is great to hear everyone's different opinions, and the section about BBC cuts in n/17 was very helpful.

Jane Fenn - Rushden, Northants

Since I wrote to IDIC I have received a membership pack for the Official ST Club (16/10/91). There was no explanation or apology for the 8 month delay.

If anyone's interested I have also managed to order (by Visa!!) some lovely Trek items from Lincoln Enterprises in the U.S. which arrived quite promptly.

I enjoyed your 25th Anniversary special, especially people's accounts of when

they first watched Star Trek. As I was only 6 at the time, and all I can remember is enjoying the programme.

*LINCOLN ENTERPRISES, P.O. Box 691370, Los Angeles, CA 90069, U.S.A. Phone 1-213-462 0181. Accepts Visa, Master and American Express cards. Send a couple of International Reply Coupons for their latest colour catalogue. It will probably be sent surface and take 6 weeks or more to arrive but it is worth waiting for as Lincoln has just about everything a ST and TNG collector could wish for.*

Jon Vernon - Twickenham, Middlesex

There has been much discussion recently about whether Data has a soul. I submit that this is only a problem for somebody with religious beliefs, because it creates conflict between their ideology and the inevitable future advances in robot/android technology. I very much doubt that your atheist readers attach any importance to Data having a soul because the concept of a soul in a religious context no longer applies.

Sue Embury - Tregare, Nr. Monmouth, Gwent

To Jeff Martin, Kirstie Jordan and others who spoke up for TNG against my earlier criticisms, I've already stated in NL 18 that my views have altered as the series develops. I was interested in Jeff's remark that Kirk's style was more in tune with adolescent fantasies, in contrast to Picard's mature approach. I agree. Perhaps the fact that Kirk still appeals means that there's still a little of the adolescent left in me! Or maybe my fondness for his rather direct approach is more related to the fact that I was just eighteen in 1969 when I first became a Star Trek fan. I have very happy memories of watching Star Trek in a crowded college TV room, surrounded by fellow addicts. We didn't see Kirk's flouting of the prime directive as a good thing (we jeered every time he did it) but we saw it as a very human failing, and it made for lively entertainment. We were having fun, and we saw the moral issues that were presented to us clearly enough to be aware of Kirk's double standards. I feel sure that the format worked for us just as Gene Roddenberry intended it to; and, perhaps because of these fond associations, it still works for me to this day.

I agree with Ann Peters that individual taste is more relevant than chronological age. I do grow to like the TNG crew more as time goes by, but I feel sure it's due to the improvement in presentation of later episodes, which has influenced me to change my opinion. Both captains do have their own individual appeal. I couldn't express it better than to quote the lines from page 49 of NL 18: Kirk: "I'll count to three- 1, 2, fire!" and Picard: "I'll count to three- 1,2,3,- I'm not kidding- 4,5,6..." My compliments to whoever said that! [Ed: It was Richard Arnold]

To Kirstie Jordan, sorry, I can't say that the Dauphin will ever be one of my favourites, but there are quite a few episodes, especially third and fourth season ones which I do find worthy of repeat watchings. e.g. Measure of a Man: Best of Both Worlds: Deja Q: Q-pid: The Offspring: Yesterday's Enterprise... and I've just seen Redemption parts I and II at T'Kon- excellent. Worf has been developed into a really interesting character, and, though I agree with Nina Lynch that it's not a particularly tense cliff-hanger, it makes a great two part story. 11 out of 10 to Russell Witheyman for his Tasha Yar prediction. Had you read the script or what?

By the way Russell, my least favourite TNG episodes include: Justice: Loud as a Whisper (Sorry Edward Woo, that one just doesn't work for me); and the supreme TNG turkey, Shades of Grey, which our family has re-titled "Riker's Brain". Forty five minutes inside Riker's head reviewing old episode clips while Deanna Troi has uncomfortable feelings, is just not my idea of entertainment. There should have been a warning broadcast in the opening credits - "Sorry folks, we ran out of time/scripts/budget for this end of season episode." Fortunately subsequent seasons have finished on a suitably high note, I am very pleased to say.

Miss E. D. Davies - Enfield, Middlesex

As a new member of IDIC I thought I would write to you expressing my thanks.

I love reading original Star Trek stories, mainly because of the depth of feeling between the character in the TV series, films and subsequent novels.

I have been an avid collector of both Pocket and Titan books, which in the main I have purchased from Forbidden Planet Mail Order in London, and from Sheffield Space Centre, 33 The Wicker, Sheffield. In the early days of ordering I found Forbidden Planet (Titan) very good, but lately I have found that the Sheffield Space Centre is very quick and efficient in despatching orders.

I have also purchased books from Fantasy Island, 17 Charing Cross Road, London (six feet under the Book Inn), tel: 071 839 2712. Although I cannot personally bring myself to read comics, I have bought The Mirror Universe Saga from Gosh Comics in London, 39 Great Russell Street, London, tel: 071 636 1011; they sell Star Trek Comics. I have also heard of a place called Time Trek in Camberly, who sell nothing but Star Trek items.

I also feel that there must be some sort of row going on between Paramount and the Publishers and writers, as there is *not* such a fast flow of new novels available and The Probe, a hardback thought to be at first available in September of this year is now indefinitely delayed, what is going on? Also the 25th Anniversary Coffee table book seems to have suffered the same fate. Paramount and Titan want a good kick up their back seats as I think that in this anniversary year they could have earned quite a bit of revenue if they had brought out a set of special novels, specially commissioned for the anniversary. *[Janet: Don't blame Titan, Pocket Books are the main publishers. Titan only reprint for the U.K.]*

I have purchased the 25th Anniversary Plate showing the original crew members and it is really beautiful, so if you fans see it on for sale, it is well worth the £25.00.

I have purchased fanzines from a number of sources, and have found Sheila Clark to be most efficient in despatching requested orders. I have found the novels, A Gift Beyond Price and Kindred Spirit, by Gloria Fry, to be well written and enjoyable stories. I have picked these stories out amongst the ones purchased from Sheila Clark because these stories I enjoyed, although I have enjoyed the other stories as well.

I have also purchased stories from Kay Stagg, and have found them to be most enjoyable and well worth the money asked for them. Kay Stagg also despatches orders quickly and efficiently.

The authoress I have enjoyed most to date must be Meg Wright. I purchased As New Wine, Hoops of Steel and Closer than a Brother; the three stories follow one another. Upon reading As New Wine I looked forward to the next two novels, and can only say from a personal point of view, I felt very warm and happy after reading these stories. I would recommend them to anyone, they were so full of love and feeling.

I also purchased The Parting of the Ways by Sue Embury and To Catch a Butterfly by Shirley Buck. Both of these were good, well written stories and once again they were a pleasure to read.

I am too nervous to order fanzines from the U.S.A. for fear of not getting the order, although I have spotted one or two I would have liked to read. I wish there was a UK outlet, selling U.S. zines. Oh well, I might one day pluck up the courage to try my luck and order U.S. zines.

*[Janet: Have you contacted Janet Ellicott - she sells some U.S. fanzines. Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Hackney, London E9 6RN, England. Some of the SF Bookshops carry fanzines; those we know of are Andromeda Book Co. Ltd., At The Sign of the Dragon and Sheffield Space Centre.]*

John Mullen - Clydebank

I was a little surprised at the many facets of Star Trek that fans show an interest in. However, one thing I have not seen specifically commented upon, was the deliberate 'hamming-it-up' prevalent in many of the 60's episodes to some degree or other. To this day I still find some of the techniques used during filming to be very funny. The manner in which the characters were played still has, in my opinion, no parallel. Examples such as the mania in Dr. McCoy's eyes and voice during his routines with Spock's aloof eyebrow; Scotty's unique ability to complete a two day job on the dilithium crystals within fifteen minutes; Captain Kirk's over-the-top portrayal in 'Mirror, Mirror', complete with dishevelled appearance and dirty Federation badge; even his charismatic soliloquizing near the end of some programmes, all rank among the best T.V. ever made. The sound effects also had their own special character: Every planet visited had a similar whistling drone in the background; the fabulous noises in sickbay and of the tricorders, phasers and transporter. Even the incidental music and score were classics. It appears to me that moments of this kind were part of the very essence of Star Trek's success. As yet there has been no other T.V. series made that can surpass big budget movies on a similar theme to Star Trek in terms of overall quality, depth of acting, stories and above all - sheer class. Although it may be very apparent that I prefer the original series, I still think the movies and TNG are good, but they just don't have the unique spark that made the original series the best.

To digress, a point that crops up now and again is the case of 'Wink of An Eye'. I believe that it has been mathematically proven that a dimension can exist within a dimension, hence giving credence to this plot. If you take the analogy of spraying perfume into a room, and the obvious free movement of the perfume particles between the air particles, this illustrates the point.

Regarding the aspect of criticism, I do feel that the policy appears to be getting a little distorted. By all means blatantly aggressive letters should be avoided, but not at the expense of giving an honest, forthright opinion. Personally I like to see the occasional comment that livens things up a little. It certainly keeps a sense of balance. Maybe letters that have controversial aspects could be asterisked to give advance warning of the content.

Finally, I was saddened to hear of Gene Roddenberry's death. I am glad he left us his legacy.

Helen White - Bracknell, Berks

First of all, thanks to everyone who mentioned that they enjoyed my Seatrek report.

Next, did anyone notice what the BBC did with Shades of Gray? Having cut Conspiracy, they managed to leave the infamous 'exploding head' in Riker's dream sequence. Oopsadaisy.

To Kay Stagg and John Stevenson - I take your point about fantasy; in looking back at my comment in n/1 17, I see that I worded it badly. What I was meaning to say was that as science fiction, Trek should stick to believable fantasy (erm). John, you're right; you can repair nerves, however you can't cure them, and you can't repair brain cells. When they're dead, they're dead, although as I said, you can prevent that damage occurring. I see no reason, however, why head transplants (probably more feasible than just brain transplants) shouldn't become possible. Basically, I think we're in agreement; as I say, I should have worded my statement better.

To Lloyd Lewis - re animals and drugs; yes, most of what you said is correct, except the bit about insulin. It's perfectly safe to everything, (except, as you say, the source animal), provided that the dose is calculated very carefully. Incidentally Ibuprofen (it's in Nurofen and Brufen) is very toxic to dogs, just to warn all dog-owning members out there.

To Simon Trick - to me, the 'chumminess' of the bridge crew is part of the appeal of Trek; after all, they've been living and working together for years, so it would be a bit strange if they weren't pretty friendly towards each other.

To Linda Wood - Your comment on Data made me think, but I reached the conclusion that I would accept him as 'alive', even if he were played by some mechanical object, for instance. It's all part of the illusion, really; I accept Daleks, for example, as 'alive', although they certainly lack compassion!

To Kirstie Jordan - re Wesley's jumpsuit. The 'ordinary' TNG jumpsuits are just as bad; you have almost to undress and then dress again just to have a wee (if you're female, that is!)

To Nina Lynch - I won £5 on the Shell game, with five of Scotty.

I enjoyed the n/1 as usual, and I thought that the 25th Anniversary Special was great. As it has turned out, I think that it also makes a fine tribute to Gene. I'm so pleased that I managed to see him in May this year; it's a memory that I shall always treasure.

#### Ray Dowsett - Cambridge

To Lloyd Lewis - Oh... I see... you were in the *MERCHANT MARINE*, which would account for you not being familiar with standard Naval Terminology. Which brings me to... what is USS ENTERPRISE?

You were serving aboard Tankers, right? Whatever you did to one of those vessels, even if in time of war she was given an antiquated set of guns for defence, you would still say it was a Tanker. Whatever you did, it could never have the turn of speed, offensive capabilities, defensive damage control, etc., of a custom built warship. In other words, irrespective of what you *USED* that ship for, it would always be a Tanker.

Given the high speed, sophisticated weapons systems, defensive ability, crewed by people trained in the usage of said weaponry, belonging to a force whose job (amongst others I admit) is *DEFENCE OF THE FEDERATION* there is no way ENTERPRISE can be equated to any sort of Defensively Armed Merchantman. The fact that she is currently *USED* for exploration, Diplomatic missions, etc., it doesn't alter what she was built to do, or what her entire construction makes her... A *WARSHIP*. Therefore, as she is obviously a vessel designed to fight, crewed by personnel trained to operate her in that mode if need be, the use of Orders stemming directly from the old *FIGHTING* navies on Earth seems to me perfectly reasonable.

To Nicole Comtet (and indirectly Kari M. John) - I am afraid that my own comments on 'Is Data Alive or a Machine' were less than clear, due to my inadequate grasp of the English language and thus equal inability to express my views as I feel them. The whole question of life and what constitutes life, is I agree complicated. Basically the point I was trying to make, and the point I still feel in spite of Kari's well reasoned article in n/1 17, is that I simply do not see that an *ARTIFICIALLY MANUFACTURED* item such as an Android of whatever sophistication it may be capable of, can possibly be deemed "alive" in the sense of any creature that has reproduced in the sense that they stemmed from living creatures also thus produced. I would be totally out of my depth to become involved with a debate on the origins of life and the Universe, or to speculate on the probability of some divine 'God' responsible for it all... however, if someone can prove to me that 'God' manufactured all life on some factory conveyor belt... and that we are all after all androids, then I will re-think my argument. Meanwhile, I cannot reconcile myself to the belief that an artificially manufactured Android is "alive" in the sense I mean the word.

To Janice White - In my 12 years of Fandom, we have twice tried to form an 'Away Team' in the Cambridge Area; both folded after a short while due to the fact we were too few, and too scattered... but if you wish to go...!!! Unfortunately it is not practical in the personal areas of my life to be that involved these days.

Considering the fate of Tasha Yar, I would feel it ill advised to change your name to "Tasha"... Yeoman Janice Rand did eventually become promoted to Transporter Chief!!, which is probably a fate *BETTER* than death?

Outside of ST, I can assure you that men are not just 'scared', they are not just "frightened", they are sometimes downright *PETRIFIED*... you need only ask Jacqueline Y. Comben my reaction to narrow cliff paths with a sheer drop on one side, or my reaction to reptiles... "scared" would be the understatement of the century!! Any man who claims to be unafraid is either a fool or a liar in my opinion... there again we are not all Star Fleet heroes!!

As for "Impulsive Button Pushing"... humans are, if nothing else, creatures of intense curiosity. If there is a notice saying "Wet Paint" it is usually next to paint that has finger prints all over it... people being unable to resist their curiosity too se if it really *IS* wet!

Finally, talking of how ST warps one's view of the English Language... if you go along the A45 towards Bedford, there is a roundabout near Caldecote with a sign, "Enterprise Cafe"... I am *DYING* to visit it and see if it's anything to do with ST... because the word "Enterprise" means only one thing to a Trekker...!!

#### Nina Lynch - Hull

As usual the newsletter is great, and I especially enjoyed the Anniversary Special, but!! why didn't you include "Lt Brent" played by Frank da Vinci; although only credited with appearing in 'The Naked Time' he could often be spotted in many other episodes.

To Karen Davies re Brent Spiner's cassette - I enjoyed it but thought that it jumped too quickly, from a quiet one to quite a lively one, gave me quite a start! Loved Tootsie. I had been looking forward to hearing it ever since I heard him 'sing' in 'In Theory'.

To Lloyd Lewis re classic Trek - I too can re-watch classic Trek, so much so that my friend and I can quote great chunks of dialogue at each other and frequently do, to the annoyance of my husband. Although I have more TNG episodes (got them from television) I tend not to watch them again unless checking for quizzes or stories. Classic is watched because I enjoy it.

To Sarah Jenkin re initiation - although not quite initiation tests, here are a few ideas to get the imagination going. Classic:

- all women must be slim and beautiful
- all women must be able to say 'I'm frightened' convincingly.
- everyone must be able to die, tidily.
- men must not cause a fuss in red shirts
- everyone must be able to go without food for long periods.
- you must care for tribbles.
- you must TRUST the captain.
- you must be able to survive 5 years without going to the bathroom.

To Eddie Yau, re doctors - at least Pulaski didn't have a genius off-spring to save the day.

To Kirstie Jordan - Wil Wheaton like a young William Shatner? Oh dear must be space madness, I can't see the connection at all. Perhaps we should compare the two of them in 50 years!!

To Janice White re English language - I put the words into correct context ie if someone says "He's dead" I always add 'Jim'. 'Sea Trek' on BBC1 made me look twice, as does Enterprise Initiative; in France a sign above a shop was "LaForge", must have been where La Blacksmith worked. If anybody dies, they die "Horribly". I could go on but I won't, let someone else get on with "a piece of the action!"

To Sherry Golding re Tasha Yar returning to life - This is the opposite.

Having seen 'Redemption I & II', hearing Guinan talk to Picard, how about if he wakes up in the shower, at the beginning of 'Yesterday's Enterprise', and doesn't let Tasha go back - end of problem with the Romulans. You're right, I'm not a Yar fan.

To Ann Peters re 'In Theory' - Data has the best line ever in TNG, "Hi, Honey I'm home." Brilliant!!! I enjoyed the episode, and would watch it more than once, which is quite good for me regarding TNG.

To Russell Witheyman - least favourite TNG episode. I will only put down the worst 5, as I can't get 70 down!!! 'Family', 'Justice', 'Coming of Age', 'Devil's Due' and 'Redemption I & II'. I don't mean to be negative about TNG, I just prefer Classic.

#### Gloria Fry - Glasgow

I must congratulate all the committee for the very impressive n/l 18 and IDIC special. They were totally engrossing from start to finish. You have excelled yourself, ladies. Well done. Keep up the good work.

My thanks to those who commented on my 'Scottish Connection' article (n/l 17), and an apology. I missed someone out... Actually when doing my research I did check this name but came up with nothing. However a few weeks ago when glancing through a book of boys' names I came across the information that Leslie is a Scottish name taken from a place in Aberdeenshire. Imagine my horror at discovering this for Mr. Leslie is one of my favourite characters. He has wonderfully expressive eyes (Watch his face in 'Tribbles' when Spock recites the number of tribbles in the storage compartment) and I feel so sorry for him shunted all over the Enterprise, as the Jack of all trades.

To Kathleen Glancy - Concerning the names McCoy, McGivers and McHuron, even Grayson. Well, the Scots, English, Welsh, also the Irish are a mongrel lot even now. By the 23rd century it could be even more complicated and I see no reason not to speculate that through Amanda, our brilliant Science Officer might have a little Scottish blood. By the way... are you the person from Edinburgh I spoke to at Albacon in the Central Hotel who said she had been at Silvercon for one day?

To Linda Wood - I love your little song (n/l 18) and agree wholeheartedly with the words. Perhaps there are a lot more where that came from e.g. "Will ye stop yer fidgeting, Spock". Maybe one time we can work some more out.

To Christine snow - Your legend about the Tribbles was delightful. (n/l 18). I have never heard that one before, but there is another about the haggis who fell into Loch Ness and was swallowed by the monster. It tumbled helplessly about inside the large reptile irritating the sensitive stomach with its hairy pelt until forcefully expelled during an enormous belch through the large, toothy mouth.

"Are there more like you?" the monster asked.

"Aye," the haggis replied in its strange tribbling way. "Millions of us."

The monster turned to its even larger mother and said, "Mummy, Ah canna stay in a place full of horrible wee monsters like that. Ah'm gorn."

It stalked out of the loch and was never seen again in Scotland.

"See whit ye've did!" exclaimed the mother monster. "Ye've drove mah baby away... Dinna show yerself near mah loch agin."

The haggis turned away in shame, told its friends never to approach Loch Ness and added, "We didnna want to cause more tribble....."

To Nicole Comtet - Note the above legend. Did you say far-fetched? Far-fetched! Well maybe just a teeny wee bit.

To Janet Quarton - I agree with you about Kirk and the slave-girl (n/l 18). He was certainly resisting her and whether he slept with her or not and its my opinion that he did, (Note how he glances at the bed beside him when he wakes up as if looking for her) I hardly think he would take advantage of her and would make sure it was what she wanted, perhaps giving her some comfort and joy for a change unlike her usual experience at the hands of the slimy pro-consul. Kirk used women at times, but they usually were aliens who were after his ship and he would ruthlessly use all his charms on them. However he showed he was capable of loving a woman also e.g. Edith and Miramanee.

To Laurie Haynes - Re your comments about using British expressions with American characters (n/l 18). Surely in the 23rd century where one can beam anywhere in the planet in seconds, these expressions will become international. People could travel from one side of the world to the other to work, then return home. They would intermingle and intermarry and the language would accommodate all sorts of words. Mummy could be used in an American or even Russian family, Mom in a Scottish or Irish family. English is already an international language and has changed drastically over the last centuries with the addition of new words from immigrants to the English speaking countries. To take this argument to its logical conclusion surely Vulcan, Andorian, Tellarite words would also find their way into general use on Earth.

To Jeff Martin and Pam Baddeley - I do not object to original characters in ST books, but I do get annoyed at professional authors who use the ST universe to sell their books and only have the original characters in it here and there. One of my favourite books is 'The Entrophy Effect' by Vonda McIntyre, where she marries the mix of original characters with her own characters plus a terrific SF plot in a perfect blend, without losing the integrity of the original ST crew. I do not believe the themes relating to Kirk, Spock and McCoy are played out and agree with Janet. I'm sure a good writer like McIntyre could come up with another book just as good, using all these themes and more. Pam, I have not read the zines you mentioned, but they sound most interesting.

To add to the discussion that has ben going on for a while about the differences between Kirk and Picard's command style, I don't believe any have as yet pointed out that Gene Roddenberry's concept was (according to Marshak and Culbreath's Shatner book and in Star Trek Lives) that Kirk and Spock are two sides of a coin, neither complete without the other, the two sides of himself. The two characters and later on with McCoy were dramatic embodiments of one person's conflicts of emotion, logic and the balance between them; hence the many incidents showing this, Kirk being stopped by Spock from doing something rash, Spock teased or goaded by Kirk and McCoy, the doctor's flights of illogic being brought to a halt by Spock.

Cynthia Philippi - Seattle, WA, U.S.A.

To Brenda Kelsey, Joanne Osborne and Beverly Golesworthy. On behalf of all American Star Trek fans, I apologise to you for the inhospitable treatment you received while in our country attending the Two Captains Creation Convention. Enclosed is a letter to Gary and Adam of Creation that I wrote on 24 October 1991. The letter lists several complaints that I have either lodged myself or have heard from other fans. I am also a member of the USS Athena, a club out of Santa Rosa, California, who has been, if you'll pardon my American slang, "screwed over" by the staff at Creation more than once. My letter is a supplement to a similar letter that the Athena sent in October.

I wanted to pass along to you that most American science fiction conventions are really great. They have that "flavour" and "sense of togetherness" that you speak of. I am in the American Coast Guard and I tend to get transferred every four to five years or so. I lived in the San Francisco Bay Area for five years and I am most familiar with the big conventions like "Baycon" and "Timecon". I have never failed to be impressed. They are very much like the around-the-clock conventions you have there in the UK. They are held in large, luxurious hotels that are suited for conventions and you don't have to pay extra for anything except



food. So, please don't judge all American conventions by the standard that Creation has set.

I would like to extend my hospitality to you should you ever come to my area for a convention. You will be given a free pass to "Hotel Philippi" (my home) which will consist of a warm, secure room with a comfortable bed and all the comforts of home. (Including the company of my cats - Dusty and Chicken Cat.) Right now I am living in the city of Seattle which is in the state of Washington (across the country from Washington DC). My address is: P.O. Box 325, Seattle, WA 98111-0325, U.S.A.

*[Janet: Cynthia did enclose a copy of her letter to Creation but unfortunately we don't have room to print it.]*

#### Russell Scott - Walton on Thames, Surrey

After having read my letter in the last n/l, I realised that I had failed to properly explain several points. Firstly, when I mentioned 'In Theory' (in relation to Data's ability to feel/recognise emotion) I meant to say that in the episode, Data is shown as being capable of imitating and recognising emotional responses, rather than being able to experience them - which was what my last letter implied. My apologies to Ann Peters if my comment on her article regarding Data and compassion sounded derogatory. I thought the article itself was well written and reasoned - I just didn't agree with the original premise.

To Russell Witheyman - just what have you got against "The Royale"? The episode has some of the Next Gen's best sets, music and one liners - and has a good plot to boot!

#### Edward Woo - Liverpool Football Club City

To Helen White - Regarding Riker and his one line "hell" a lot, Picard momentarily caught it as well. Riker currently seems to be getting one liners. In the 1st season he was in the action but to an extent he has mellowed in exhibiting a command style. This gives Picard more freedom to stay aboard ship or go on an Away mission when the situation demands. With Riker and Picard on the bridge at the same time I thought there might be a conflict of command, but they seem to work well with Riker running the ship giving Picard options to act. I doubt Kirk would have liked that, preferring to be in charge at all times. In fact an episode or two with Picard and Riker at odds over a command decision would produce some tension just like Spock, McCoy and Kirk did.

To Keren Davies and Karen Savage - You are right in saying is Data chemical. I remember in Naked Now, he had pores and if Data was pricked would he not leak implying a liquid like blood. When Riker removed Data's arm it all looked electrical. I wonder if Data has external electrical connections so he can come in parts whilst internally he is chemical in nature.

Why did Dr. Noonian Singh give Data an on/off switch? It could have been to protect himself from the android till it was fully working. Then does he think his creation will really work at all? Couldn't Data weld it on now or is it a safety device devised by Dr Singh. If Data is to mingle with people and to be as human as possible, shouldn't Data's parts be permanently welded together so he can't be easily dis-assembled like in A Measure of a Man.

To Bev Ambrose - re: City on the Edge of Forever. You are right in saying that Edith Keeler would have died somehow during that time and thus prevent a change in history. With Dr. McCoy going back in time, he would have been in a position to save her. However with Spock and Kirk there, they nullified each other leaving Edith Keeler to die. Like you said the wino was there for dramatic effect and nothing else.

To Laurie Haynes - ST is an American show and there is a tendency to use American words and not British ones. As ST is tailored and paid for by the U.S. audience it is that way inclined but I think they should cater for a world audience. For example Picard says trash in a story, rubbish would have been the

British equivalent, but litter or paper could have been used.

To Pam Baddeley - The US rating system is based upon the Neilson Ratings. The more people that watch a programme the higher it rises in the ratings. Shows do get cancelled if they can't stay in the top 70. This is because sponsors who support a particular programme won't be getting a big enough audience to watch it and know about their commercial products.

You were right in saying my original comments were based upon Edward Gross's, The Making of TNG. The early draft had a girl in the part of Wesley before it was changed to a boy, and why not a girl - as Barry Norman would say.

To Allison Blandford - You are right in saying why should Spock be of a higher rank than Kirk. I believe hard work and application should get you to the top. Intelligence can get you there as well but Spock may not want to go higher and could be happy in the rank he has now. As Captain Kirk found out, paper work increases with more responsibility and I believe Spock would prefer to stay at the frontiers of science and exploration.

To Eddie Yau - There is some validity in what you say that Dr. Pulaski is well known and respected, no doubt being in the job a lot longer than Dr. Crusher. Dr. Crusher may have many years to go and more research to catch up. I like Dr. Bev Crusher and it's nice to see her back in the 3rd season.

I do agree with you that most of the aliens we have met have been Earth atmosphere breathers. It was cheaper on the budget for classic Trek and TNG. The nearest non air breather we have had are the Benzites. You'll notice we have not had any space suited planets to visit, just like the old Trek.

To Janice White - on the whole button pushing is part of the ST technology but I don't think it is as bad as it looks. I remember Chekov and Sulu did more button pushing than anyone.

To Nina Lynch - If Data does run on batteries, does he ever need recharging? As Data does not eat to get energy he must get it from somewhere.

To Colin Gunn - Regarding that fake ST merchandise. Have you tried getting your money back, as it sounds like a real rip off. I'd stay away from those places if you can and stick to the established SF shops.

#### Sheila Clark - Dundee

Kathleen Glancy's comments on City, Edith's death and the wino, made me think. Maybe in the original time line the wino tried to save Edith and they both died under the same truck? Or - almost more likely considering her nature - she died trying to save him? At any rate, he had to die then, too.

To Allison Blandford - By saying that London was the most popular city of Old Earth Spock was surely simply talking of the past, just as we might say Athens was the greatest city of Ancient Greece - was, although it still exists. (Also, to a Vulcan, Earth cities would be unimportant - he would be more likely to consider Shikahr a great city.) However, in the Earth of the 22/23rd Century, maybe Man has more sense than to overcrowd himself into cities the way he has done for the last couple of hundred years; maybe nobody lives in large cities any more - cf a story by Marion Zimmer Bradley (it's in The Best of Marion Zimmer Bradley) in which a spaceship has returned to Earth only to find a culture that apparently no longer uses technology; the people have abandoned the cities and live in small villages. In fact, they do have technology; they simply don't let it rule their lives.

To Kirstie Jordan - re Wil Wheaton's uniform zipping up the back. Plenty of women manage to get into dresses that zip up the back and do them up themselves - Wil looks athletic enough to manage the contortions necessary - and going to the bathroom for him will be no more difficult than it is for anyone wearing a jumpsuit, catsuit or (for a women) dungaree suit; in every case you have to strip

off the outer covering... which is why I don't think the ST-TMP jumpsuits were practical. I made the mistake (years ago, when I was a lot thinner) of buying a catsuit, which I wore *once*; by the time I had undressed for the fourth time that day I decided to put the price of the thing down to experience, and threw it out.

To John Stevenson - Man has entertained the notion of flying for a very long time - consider the legend of Daedalus and Icarus, who used the wings of birds to enable them to fly. There's a story about a monk somewhere who tried something similar and jumped off a high building with wings strapped to his arms. He hit the ground about a yard from the foot of the wall. Leonardo da Vinci made sketches of a viable flying machine - unfortunately in his day the technology to build it wasn't there. The earliest science fiction story about going to the moon dates back quite a long way, too - I can't remember exactly how long - but if I remember correctly it involved a carriage being attached with cords to the individual members of a huge flock of swans. Man may not have thought it possible to fly (Leonardo excepted) but that didn't stop him dreaming about it!

Regarding brain transplants - what happens to personality? Would a brain transplant mean giving a body a new brain - or a brain a new body? I would suspect the latter.

To Jeff Martin - I take your point about most major themes involving Kirk, Spock and McCoy having been written and rewritten - this is the case in fan fiction as well as the novels, but new writers are coming in to fan fiction all the time and these plots are new to them. Professional writing is a different case, however. Now while I wouldn't automatically condemn a Trek novel that was mostly about the writer's own characters, Star Trek is about the crew of the Enterprise (in either incarnation) and I do feel it's possible to strike a happy medium where the established crew at least play a significant part in a story instead of being relegated to little more than walk-on appearances. To call a story Star Trek when its only link to the series is that the protagonists happen to live in a Federation where there is a ship called Enterprise captained by James T. Kirk - the situation hasn't arisen for TNG yet, though it probably will - and which appears for a couple of pages at the beginning (and/or end) just to say "This is Star Trek", is cheating and the story should be published as original science fiction. Nor is it really Star Trek if the writer's characters serve on the Enterprise but the story is all about them and their exploits; the established crew - or some of them at least - should be in there somewhere doing *something* relevant to the story. It doesn't have to be the big three. A story about the adventures of a landing party made up of the writer's own characters *but led by Sulu or Chekov or Uhura* would probably get away with it.

To Margaret Connor - even the professional writers are writing inside their own interpretation of Star Trek, and in Boogymen Mel Gilden may have interpreted the Yamato's destruction as giving Geordi the solution to the problem because he felt that made the scene on P 137 of Boogymen flow more smoothly - or Pocket Books made alterations to P 137 at the editing stage to make the explanation briefer.

#### Elena Bond - London

To Kathleen Glancy - thank you for your comments about my letters. Let me put the record straight - even I do not equate Riker with God! Readers might like to know that God is indifferent to the charms of Riker. I'm sure you will all be happy to learn that God likes Star Trek. How do I know this? Well, God is a frequent guest speaker at British cons. (And before anyone takes offence, this is a spoof!) For those of you who missed God's talk at Midcon (or who were not considered yet ready to attend) I'm sure you would be most interested in a report.

God's favourite TNG character is not Riker but Lt. He-who-gets-too-big-for-his-head Barclay, precisely *because* he gets too big for his head. (The Nth Degree is a classic). Readers may be sad to learn that as much as God likes Star Trek, it's as a Blake's Seven fan that God really shines. Avon is really God's servant and avenging angel and thus closer to the divine ideal of perfection than Riker could ever aspire to. So if you really want to know God, follow Avon! Still, I

think it's time we made God an honorary member of IDIC.

On a more serious note, I love the book *Survivors* and only wish Paramount would make it into a movie. I know Paramount won't, but that does not stop me throwing the idea around! If anyone at Paramount does see enough sense to take up the idea, please, please cast Paul Darrow in the role of Dave Adin (Dave is very much an Avon figure). I'm sure Avon was Jean Lorrah's original inspiration for Dave (by the way I love the character.) I for one always imagine Mr. Darrow as Dave and feel it's about time this actor was offered a major film role.

To Margaret Connor - Yes, I need help and am still looking for someone to start a British section of fffJF. But I need someone who is extremely open-minded and who would welcome all - and I mean *all* fans of Riker/Jonathan Frakes, not just fans of the Riker/Troi romance. It may be hard to believe, but there is someone in London trying to start up a British fan club for Jonathan which would exclude all his fans who are not in favour of reinstating the Riker/Troi romance (on the grounds that these are not true Riker fans!) I feel this is outrageous and we should all give this particular Servalan her marching orders. If you feel you have the right broad-minded attitude for this (search your soul first) then by all means contact me.

To Clare Holden - Riker's beard... well, I don't have a personal preference, as I like him equally with and without it. I feel this is a personal matter which should be left to Mr. Frakes' own taste.

To Richard Fuller - your letters are magic. The times I have felt like saying "Beam me up, Scotty, there's no intelligent life here." What a brilliant idea for a badge, so one could wear it on those sometimes obligatory visits to places where no intelligent life exists. Perhaps someone might consider producing such a badge - it's crucial!

To Martin Stahl - thank you for your wonderful con report. I really enjoyed reading this. To dance, have dinner with and have your photo taken with James Doohan - now that really is something!

#### Russell Witheyman - Crawley, West Sussex

I've recently seen the TNG episode *First Contact*. This has to be one of the best episodes I have seen, TNG or Classic Trek; this was science fiction at its best.

To David Jon Thorne - I have also been awarding points to TNG starting with seasons 1 - 4 and I have found that the 2nd season wasn't quite as good as the first. There were some pretty bad episodes in season 2, like *Shades of Grey*, *The Royale*, *Icarus Factor*, *Up the Long Ladder* etc, and these merited only one point. The good episodes of season 2 were better than the good episodes of season 1, but the 1st season didn't really have that many bad episodes, so I am forced to disagree with most people - the second season wasn't a patch on the first. Of course, the 3rd and 4th seasons are a lot, lot better, and I hope the 5th and 6th will continue to improve.

#### Cath Russell - Barnstaple

I must say that I absolutely agree with Sheila Clark's comments about Patrick Stewart's acting, as I suppose would most members of IAAPS! Likewise, I feel this is no slur on the abilities of the other TNG actors (Brent Spiner is also superb) but merely an appreciation of Patrick's ability. What concerns me is the use TNG makes of this talent. I gather that at a convention recently he commented that he felt the series does not stretch him as an actor and at times this causes him distress. I personally find this rather sad, but what is the alternative? To return to Britain? Another comment, this time from Marina Sirtis, again concerning Patrick. "In England he's an aging character actor, in the States he's a sex symbol..." spells out the dilemma. Why do the Powers That Be in this country treat the very best of our male middle-aged talent in this manner? (We won't go into how they treat the women - the newsletter isn't long enough...) Can anyone

explain why, in order to qualify for either a romantic or adventurous role the actor needs not only to be tall, dark and handsome but also *young*? It's ludicrous, particularly taking into account how many women are actually married to middle-aged men and presumably find them interesting enough to stay married to them!

A recent article in TV Zone highlighted the problem. It was two-part interview with the writer Chris Boucher, writer of various episodes of Dr. Who and Blake's Seven, and responsible for the brilliant Star Cops. And what did he have to say about Star Cops? That it wasn't as he had wanted it to be... they hadn't hired a HUNK to play the lead, as he had wanted... Give me strength!! How can anyone as supposedly intelligent as he must be think that way? Does he really believe that the only way he's going to attract women to view a series is by providing a hunk for them all to ogle at? That women are not attracted to other facets of a man such as character, sense of humour... he must think us very shallow creatures! In the event he was gracious enough to admit that the actor who did get the lead, brilliant David Calder, was excellent in the part, but then proceeded to say that he's working on a book which will be the series as he intended! That's his prerogative, but here's one sale he won't be making!

Personally I should have thought that there was enough evidence to prove the popularity of the more mature actor - witness the success of John Thaw, David Suchet, Roy Marsden, Jeremy Brett... the list is endless; all British and also - which must say something but I'm not sure what - all very popular in the USA. Which brings us nicely back to Patrick Stewart and another quote - this time from Gene Roddenberry and I hope this won't be considered blasphemous (in more ways than one), whose reply when Bob Justman suggested Patrick for the role of Picard was... "Jesus Christ, Bob, I don't want a bald man!" It says something for Gene that he was willing to take a chance; I just wish there were others who felt the same way...

A quick comment in agreement with Elena Bond - Jon Vornholt is my favourite TNG author too (although I love Peter David's work also), mainly because his books stand out from the general run of TNG books. Like her, I loved Masks. Where was it carved in stone that Picard is celibate? Particular, maybe... but celibate? (Masks was written before the advent of Vash (Captain's Holiday) I believe. Contamination was unputdownable also, for me it had everything and the mix of science fiction and crime detection, to my mind, works very well.

#### Helen Cakebread - Coventry

My sister and I were at the Coventry T'Kon convention and watched a TNG episode called First Contact - not sure what season it's in but I really enjoyed it. They are at last becoming more relaxed with each other and we all laughed when the young girl wanted to make love to Riker. He looks better with a beard... Mind you, I still think the Klingon is the best looking one.

And why bring Dr. Crusher back? She's too soft to be a doctor, not like the other one. Crusher looks as if she's holding a dummy box of tricks - at least with McCoy you could believe what he was doing!

Please carry on with the newsletter, it's great value for money.

#### Lisa Dearnley-Davison - Southport

I had the opportunity to go to Conduit in August and had an absolutely great time. This was my very first convention and while I had to travel every day (about 50 miles each way!) from Southport, it was absolutely wonderful. Trek fans are the friendliest people I know and I can't wait till the next convention I attend. Anyway, while we were there, we watched loads of fourth season episodes and met the giant Caryl Struyken, aka Mr. Homn, who towered above everyone answering questions on Trek, Twin Peaks and the Adams Family. (Who knew that there was NO script for the last episode of Twin Peaks?!) The best part of all, for me, had to be Guy Vardaman who was hilarious, starting nearly every line with "I'm not supposed to tell you this, but..." and giving away some of the story lines for the fifth season and the new film. I love the T-shirt, Guy!

To all those who wonder why Deanna had so little to do, it was mentioned on P47 of N/L 18 by Sheila Clark. However, Guy explained that Whoopi never knows when she's free to appear, so when she is free and goes down to the studios, Marina's part is re-written for Whoopi. When you see Guinan helping someone with their problems in Ten Forward, it probably should have been Deanna in her office. Despite all that, Deanna gets a whole episode all to herself in the fourth season, when she loses her empathic powers, and boy, do you see a different side to that wonderful, caring counselor!

Waltraud Zucha-Glass - Luzern, Switzerland

A big thank you to Janet for her wonderful interpretation of IDIC - I agree with you wholeheartedly! In the present discussion it seems to come down to the old argument of "freedom of speech" versus "politeness". While I am strictly against any censorship I equally strictly uphold the opinion that my own freedom of speech ends where my neighbour's begins; thus I can openly state my opinion, but have to refrain from making insulting remarks about things other people like - expecting the same simple civility from anybody else. I totally agree with Kay Stagg on the subject of "constructive or negative criticism". And I couldn't disagree more with Linda Norman as to the extent to which the original ST is "flawed". After all, whose "standard" does ST acting or directing have to live up to? As far as "taking it too seriously" is concerned; if you really like something, you don't want to have it attacked, not even in fun - especially as "fun" can mean something different to everybody, from the really facetious to the downright insulting! We can have a lot of fun with our hobby, but not at the expense of somebody else's feelings.

I especially liked the 25th Anniversary Special. Unlike so many other publications it is full of love and respect for those who actually celebrate the 25th anniversary - the original crew of the U.S.S. Enterprise! There is none of the antagonism which seems to be en vogue now, just love... and that's what has kept ST alive for 25 years!

I am surprised at the discussion about whether or not Drusilla and Captain Kirk "indulged". The poor girl would be amazed to no end if she could hear all the profound comments made on what she obviously considered a pleasant change from her usual duties with the Proconsul (looking at the Proconsul, can you blame her?!). And could anybody please notice that Kirk does NOT use her to gain information or weapons, as this could indeed have had dangerous consequences for her? Besides, I suggest that all of you who complain about Kirk's attitude towards women should have a good look at G.B. Shaw's "Man and Superman"...

As far as children and conventions are concerned: here's another mother who will stay at home with her baby. I missed Mr. Doohan in Nuremburg and I'm going to miss everybody else in the near future, but as long as Wolfgang is happy... I find myself agreeing with Kay Stagg in every detail; not only about Mr. Shatner, but also about the wisdom of bringing active toddlers to a con!

I am fascinated by the profound discussion about Data. I agree with Nicole Comtet's reasoning - Data is a machine. I thought I was the only one to think so... And no, I don't think that this statement is in any way offensive to Data-fans, for the same reasons as Nicole!

By the way, in case Sheila is still collecting opinions on the "death" story in IDIC Log 4, here's mine; no! And not just "because I don't like it" but because I found the story illogical in many respects. Even I found the logical way out of the dilemma! This makes the survivors - experienced officers renowned for their intelligence and inventiveness - look somewhat stupid indeed. As Sheila said in the editorial it certainly is a well-written story, but I don't think it's ethical (for the lack of a better term) to kill off characters who are not your own creation - unless it is stated firmly from the very beginning that the story is placed in an alternate universe. A VERY alternate universe!

Jacqueline Comben - Gower, Swansea

In the last issue, a number of folk commented that it was a shame that Marina Sirtis had not been invited to a British Convention. If that were true, I would agree. However, I know that all Con Committees try for absolutely all the cast(s), because, frankly, they take whomsoever they can get! Certainly, Marina has been approached.

I suspect that the confusion is due to the fact that Committees have, as is usual, contacted Marina's agent and have received refusals, for whatever reason. The agent has not mentioned the matter to Marina. This does present an interesting notion: should Committees try to contact Marina in person? It may be that, if a Committee explained the nature of UK Cons, that they are non-profit making, any profits going to charity, Marina would accept terms which her agent has refused. Of course it is equally possible that the sticking point has not been financial, that Marina has simply had previous commitments which prevented her from coming. Her agent might well not see any point in telling her of invitations she was unable to accept.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who acted as stewards at Midcon. As usual, they were wonderful.

Denise Sparrow - Martock, Somerset

I am enjoying the Anniversary magazine, but am not really keen on the letters page in the club mag. There seems to be too much of it and I'm afraid I now tend to skip these pages.

Martin Stahl - Marktheidenfeld, Germany

When I read the last n/1 I discovered a mistake in my Warp III report. I have on my keyboard the '£' sign and I used it for the price but I didn't notice that it printed out as 'o'. So in the report 'o' should be '£'.

*[Janet: we wondered but as we didn't know whether it was £ or DM we decided to leave it.]*

John Stubbley - Boston, Lancs

I recently decided to join IDIC as a first step into Star Trek fandom (I'm using the jargon already!). I joined at both a happy and sad time. It's Star Trek's 25th Anniversary, and when it arrived I read all the stories of those who found Star Trek 25 years ago in the IDIC Special. However, one day after my application for membership was dispatched, Gene Roddenberry passed away. For those who knew him personally, I offer my condolences. These things move me to write of my short acquaintance with Gene's creation.

Unusually enough, I did not turn to Star Trek via the original series, or the Next Generation. My greatest joy is not seeing the Enterprise crews, but reading of them. Ever since I picked up my first Star Trek hardback at my local library, I have always found it difficult to put a novel down until I have finished reading it. As such I do not think of the cast of the classic Star Trek in terms of episode titles, but in terms of novel titles. I cannot remember what happened during 'The Enemy Within' or 'The Lights of Zetar' but I think in terms of 'Ishmael' (my favourite) and 'Entropy Effect'. It seems to me this is not the way a genuine Star Trek fan thinks or remembers it, but this is why I joined the IDIC club.

Incidentally, I may want to go to the Rec-con in Manchester next August (Break the Bank!). Has anyone been to a Rec-con? What's it like?

Kathleen Glancy - Edinburgh

I hope Gene Roddenberry had time to read the Silver Anniversary Special, since it did him proud.

I was faintly surprised to find Sheila and Brenda Kelsey had problems finding the early Blissh adaptations. I read the first collection *before* the show was aired. Bought it in James Thin & Co, the Foyles of the North - an American edition

with a British price label on the back.

Marcia Pecor's profiles were excellent, and clearly well researched - probably she *knew* about Leonard Nimoy's early appearance in the deathless Saturday serial *Zombies of the Stratosphere*, but tactfully refrained from mentioning it from a feeling that he would rather forget it. Maybe she missed Walter Koenig's guest spot (as himself, not Chekov) in an obscure comic called *Eternity Smith* (issue 9 - and he got the girl). Perhaps she will have upset the more literate *Shatner* fans, though. "Oh Captain, my Captain" does indeed begin most appositely but by the end we learn the officer in question is ignoring the triumphal clamour for the excellent reason that he is lying cold and dead, and has been for some time. It was written as a lament for Lincoln, I think.

To Kay Stagg - I don't think the man himself would consider 'Shatner' is an insult. In his profession it is a mark of distinction to be called by a single name. When, last century, people said, "I'm going to see Irving's Hamlet" nobody said "Irving who?" When, earlier this century, people said, "I'm going to see Olivier's Shylock," the answer was not "You mean Charlie Olivier of the Neasden Repertory Theatre?" This applies to all the arts. We don't say we're going to a play by Master Shakespeare, a Signor Rossini opera, a Herr Mozart concert. We don't go to an art gallery to look at Senor Picasso paintings or Monsieur Rodin statues.

I agree absolutely with your views on young children at cons, and congratulate you on your unselfish decision not to attend cons while your children were little. I once retrieved (at an SF con) a child of about 3 on her way out of the Central Hotel, Glasgow. As Silvercon attendees know, the doors of the hotel open 1) into a railway station and 2) a busy street. She was heading for the station. As well as the obvious dangers, there are some unsavoury characters hanging about all stations; and she was a trusting little thing - came with me at once when I told her I would help her find mummy. What if I'd been Myra Hindley? Her mother, as it turned out, had looked away for five minutes in the dealers' room.

Janet - Your case for Kirk's defence was admirably reasoned and an example to all on how to argue for your own opinion without resorting to abuse or emotionalism. It has not converted me, although I agree with many of your points. I'd agree that Kirk would never use force on a woman. The potential is in him (see *Enemy Within*) but he has it well under control. His very faults as well as his basic good intentions would stop him short of rape. He does not feel deeply for women and regards them pretty much as interchangeable (I'd except Edith Keeler; I would except Miramane only he'd never have looked at her if he'd been in his right mind when they met) since his real love is his ship and his real friends are male. If a woman refused him he wouldn't press it, but think it was her loss and go off to find someone who wouldn't refuse. Where we differ (*Bread and Circuses*) is that I think he wouldn't look beyond Drusilla's appearance of willingness and you think he would. The only women he can be *proved* to have had sex with by what we see on the screen are Miramane and Carol Marcus, for obvious reasons.

In reply to Kay Stagg's comments in the postbag (N/L 17), basically I think that a man capable of asking Drusilla all those questions (about willingness to participate) rather than just accept at face value what appeared to be quite a willing woman would *not* be capable of referring to her as 'a few curves' soon after. As for 'mutual agreement' to indulge, for Drusilla it wouldn't be an indulgence. It's her *job* - she is an instrument of pleasure for her owner. She'll have been trained, if it seems the owner wants her to feel pleasure, to simulate it at once so as to feed his ego.

To Linda Wood - Interesting point about Data being played by a Human actor. How about R2D2? He wasn't humanoid - little Dalekoid if anything - and spoke in bleeps. Whether he had a soul I wouldn't venture to say, but that he had a *personality* can't be denied. By the way, should we tell them that the *real* origin of Make it so was probably via Admiral Murgatroyd? Or wouldn't you agree?



To Pam Baddeley - though not French, I think I can answer the Dauphin/Dauphine question. Dauphin in effect meant 'heir to the throne'. France had the Salic law which meant no woman could succeed so there couldn't be a Dauphine in her own right; the Dauphine was the wife of a Dauphin. Assuming we are dealing with a planet whose culture had had French influence, perhaps they were fussy about semantics. They wanted to use the French title but didn't subscribe to any sexist laws. "Ah!" cried a historian, "but there is a solution. A precedent. The British monarch was the *Duke* of Lancaster, whatever the sex of the monarch might be!" So they called the heir 'Dauphin' whatever the sex of the heir might be.

To Jeff Martin - you attribute more deep thought to my remarks on Genghis Khan than was the case. I was merely advancing supporting arguments for my view that these weren't the real Lincoln, Surak, et al, but constructs from Kirk's and Spock's minds. As for Hitler, he has apologists now and you are probably right in thinking he'll have more as he recedes in time. Come to that, if other leaders had had his technology (Cromwell with the Irish, for example) they too might have tried genocide.

To Richard Fuller - The curator of the National Museum of Scotland says the only *true* claymore is the two-handed sword. However, the lighter and shorter broadsword such as Bonnie Prince Charlie (who was hardly Scottish at all) used was often erroneously called a claymore. Even supposing the entity knew the difference, giving Scotty an authentic claymore wouldn't have done. The great sword (claymore is a phonetic rendering of the Gaelic for 'great sword') took training and space to wield, whereas even an amateur could do some damage with a broadsword.

Finally, I'd like to know if any other guest star, like one of the female persuasion, will join Leonard Nimoy and Mark Lenard on TNG

#### Jeff Martin - Himeji Hyogo, Japan

First off, a thank you to Russell Clark for reaching the conclusion I never did. While I agree that Data's predicament vis-a-vis his lack of an internal referent with which to analyze or compare possible emotional states is analogous to every human's experience, I'd like to raise one additional point for further speculation.

Data came into the world as a being fully self-aware, while in humans that consciousness does not exist in even rudimentary form until several years after birth. How does the development of consciousness affect one's ability to recognize and classify emotional states? Is it possible that if humans came into the world fully self-aware that we would behave like Data?

On the question of "negative" comments, which several writers commented on last n/1, I agree that there is no need for malicious criticism or spiteful personal attacks. However, there are some actor/actress fans who, in the extremes of adulation, abandon all sense of perspective in the worship of their idols. These people fairly invite cynical invective. As a case in point, I cite the letter in n/18 in which Shatner is described as a "great novelist." The person who wrote this gave absolutely no indication of why she thought Shatner was worthy of greatness.

Now, while I didn't enjoy 'TekWar', I'm willing to believe others did, but I can't accept the elevation of Shatner to literary greatness since he so obviously borrowed Ron Goulart's style and plotting. A "great" novelist is one with original ideas or who has a style or perspective uniquely his own. Shatner's writing exhibits none of these, though that's not to say that he doesn't write enjoyable, but predictable, genre fiction. So, while I'm in complete agreement that letter writers should refrain from writing mean, unsupported criticism, they should also refrain from writing fawning accolades.

[Janet - I normally refrain from answering letters in the newsletter they are printed in as it gives me an unfair advantage, but I felt I just had to say

*something in answer to Jeff. This is a 'fan' club and if members can't extol the virtues of their idols here where can they? And I don't see why reading a letter from a fan who obviously likes and sticks up for an actor or character should make other fans be cynical just to bring them 'down to earth' so to speak.*

*I wouldn't say that describing William Shatner as a 'great novelist' is a 'fawning accolade' - it is a matter of opinion. She likes TekWar, you don't. I could call the writer of 'Silence of the Lambs' a great writer as I thought it was a brilliant book - but that is just my opinion. I also love Anne McCaffrey's writing but I don't recall having heard of Ron Goulart.]*

Lindsey Shelton - Warley, W. Midlands

To Elena Bond - Until reading your comments in the recent newsletter I was totally unaware of the controversy surrounding John Vornholt's portrayal of Picard in his novel, 'Masks'.

Your letter caught my attention because of this, due to my shock and horror that from what you have said, so many fellow fans felt this to be a distasteful characterisation. I must say that I loved 'Masks', and relished seeing Jean-Luc in a romantic entanglement - and why not?

Vornholt is not the only writer of TNG novels who views Picard as having a deeper, more passionate side to his nature. In 'Power Hungry' Howard Weinstein paints our beloved Captain thus:

"The few who knew this starship captain best were well aware of his Gallic appreciation for the proverbial pleasures of wine, women and song."

I think that we all accept that Picard is fundamentally a private man, not known for his demonstrability in respect of his feelings. However, we have witnessed his depth of emotion for what the Federation has and continues to achieve. In 'Who Watches the Watchers' he gives a passionate argument that the Prime Directive should be adhered to and refuses to return the people back to their superstitious past. Surely a man who can express such an intensity of feeling must have a more emotional side to his personality.

As you pointed out Picard is only human and being the Captain of Starfleet's flagship is in many ways a very isolating and lonely occupation. Would our fellow Trekkers begrudge this fine man the odd romantic encounter to soothe his cold nights? I for one would not. I wish that instead of concentrating on Riker and the others to entertain us in this department, that Picard should get the occasional opportunity. I leave you with Phillipa Louvois' observation in 'Measure of a Man', who proposed that Picard "was a sexy man". And I second that!

Ann Peters - Kidderminster, Worcs.

To Lloyd Lewis - Money spinner, eh? Nice one, Lloyd!

To Martin Stahl - Thank you for putting my question to Marina Sirtis; it had really never occurred to me that Troi might actually get to answer it. By the way, I'm fascinated by those German titles you provide us with. Some of them are better than the original ones.

To Ed - My comments about 'older fans' in N/L 18 really did refer to chronologically older fans and not to 'long-term fans'. My own view (like yours) is that age isn't necessarily a deciding factor, but I was addressing comments from people who very definitely think that it is - words like 'generation' and actual ages leave me in no doubt about that.

To Liz Caldwell - I totally agree with everything you said about 'The Royale'. Great episode. I think it might have been even better if the away team had been completely cut off from the Enterprise - it all seemed a bit too cosy as it was - but I suppose Patrick Stewart is far too expensive to be left out of all the fun.

To Margaret Connor - Re the Contagion solution - It looks to me like you are precisely correct and the book author is loosely correct.

To Karen Davies - Data didn't leak because he's obviously been fitted with the kind of shutprettydamquick valves one would expect of 24th century technology. I was rather alarmed, though, at the ease with which the arm was removed. No wonder he keeps his arms close to his sides when he nips through those Enterprise doors.

To Nicole Comtet - If one actually defines 'being alive' as 'having been created by God', then clearly Data is not alive. But this definition takes us back to the creation/life problem you started with. Is *everything* created by God alive? Planets? Rocks? Stars? Surely not. So we still have to distinguish between God's living creations and God's non-living creations. And to do that, we need a decent definition of 'life'.

To Nina Lynch - I am sometimes concerned that Data is played a little *too* human, and the head scratching you mention worried me too. But, then again, why do humans scratch their heads? Does it really help us to think, or is it just a habit we pick up through observing others?

To Simon Trick - The physical functioning of the body that you mention includes the functioning of the brain and one of the functions of the brain is thought. Since attributes like love etc. are generated by thoughts, they are just as much biochemical mechanisms as physical functionings - albeit very much more complex ones - and personality can quite easily be changed by altering the chemistry of the brain. I believe that's why drugs are so popular.

Brent Spiner was very slightly misquoted in the ET report in N/L 18. It should have been '...Shakespeare AND...' - not 'or' - ie a combination of Shakespeare and flying around the room rather than one or the other. It makes more sense that way - at least it does to me.

#### Can you help

I am currently working on a communications project thesis on Star Trek, and I am looking for any one who has undertaken such a task. It would also be helpful if someone had viewing figures for the BBC/NBC etc., video sales, book sales etc. if you could pass them on. Thanks. Robert Kirkwood, 2 Isles Terrace, Newmilns, Ayrshire, Scotland, KA16 9JZ. (I will gladly pay any reasonable postage costs)

\*\*\*\*\*

## MIDCON - CHAS EVANS (CIC VIDEO)

reported by Helen White

STVI now has a release date of February 7th 1992 (December 13th in the US), and CIC are planning to release the TNG episode 'Unification' (see Richard's talk) for rental the same week.

They are currently releasing three Trek videos per month, to try and get ahead of the BBC again - talking of which, it is doubtful that the latter will be showing 'The High Ground'.

They are also planning big things for November; Leonard Nimoy is over here and they want to arrange a preview of STVI - more news may be elsewhere in this n/l. [We have heard nothing more about this as of 17/11/91]

Talking of STVI, we were then shown the trailer. Wowee! It looks absolutely brilliant.

The reason that they're not putting 'Unification' straight onto sell-through is that they want to try and hook more fans via the rental market (at the moment, they sell approximately 7.5 thousand copies of each Trek video); also, CIC is a non-profit-making business.

At the end of the session, some wise person asked if we could see the STVI trailer again - so we did!

*Additionally Mark French reports that CIC hope to release the Star Trek 25th Anniversary Documentary hosted by William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy on video. And that CIC mentioned that they will have released all the 5th season TNG episodes by the end of 1992.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## MIDCON - RICHARD ARNOLD

reported by Helen White

### 5TH SEASON TNG

As usual, Richard had a collection of slides with him; this was the first time that I've seen the fifth season set.

The first episode is 'Redemption II'. The Klingons are back, as is Denise Crosby, and Worf gets beaten up (very impressive make-up; a Klingon with a black eye!)

Next is 'Darmok', which is one of those 'special' episodes. Patrick got a new outfit for it; this included a suede jacket that cost £3000. Paul Winfield (Terrell from TWOK) stars as one of the aliens.

The third slide showed Picard in the barber-shop aboard ship; apparently, this set is used a lot this season. This episode introduces Ensign Rowe (or Ro?), who is a new continuing character, like our old friend Barclay.

Fourth is 'Silicone Avatar', which sees the return of the Crystal Entity, causing big problems for Data.

The next episode is called 'Disaster!' Picard is trapped in a turbolift with three wailing children and a broken leg, Troi is trapped on the bridge with O'Brien and Ro(we), and is therefore in command, Keiko (O'Brien's wife) is giving birth in Ten-Forward, with Worf (yes, I did say Worf!) as a midwife... Meanwhile, Data and Riker are stuck in a Jeffries' Tube, trying to get to Engineering, and Bev and Geordi are trapped on the shuttle-deck with some hazardous material and a fire, which means that they can't escape, as the door mechanism won't allow it. Richard says that this is just the beginning - sounds great....

Then comes an episode called 'The Game', in which Riker has visited an, erm, professional-type female, and been taught a game. Back aboard ship, the game soon catches on, and that's when the troubles start: however, Wes is on the ship (on leave from the Academy) and is in love, and he and the girl are both unaffected.

The next episode's slides brought huge cheers from the audience: it's a two-parter called 'Unification', and.....it's got Spock in it, at last, hooray. Sarek isn't at all well (he's got Bendii Syndrome, you remember), and Spock has been seen on the Romulan homeworld. What can be happening?

Denise Crosby is in the episode, in her Romulan 'hat', as is Malachi Throne, who was also in The Menagerie, Trek's only other two-parter, (Richard says that cliff-hangers don't count, even though they're called part 1 and part 2, how strange) and Spock and Data have a great scene together, in which they discuss Captains..... it sounds brilliant, and I can't wait!

That's as far as the episodes have got at the moment. The last few slides were shots of both casts, except LeVar, with Gene, at the opening of Paramount TV's new building. They've named it the Gene Roddenberry Building.

## RICHARD AND SCOTT Q & A SESSION:

Please note that this talk took place before Gene died, and therefore some of the information in it cannot now be taken as necessarily accurate.

Richard had something to say 'before we start'. He spoke at length about it, but the basic facts are as follows:

Richard has had some very bad press because of a person called Robert Earl Butch Day, who's been claiming to have worked on Trek and has been a guest at least one UK con. Robert Earl Butch Day is nothing to do with Trek and never has been.

Gene thinks of the original Trek characters as his 'children', and the TNG characters as his 'grand-children'.

Leonard and Majel are now the only two people to have been in original Trek, the animateds, the films and TNG.

Someone asked whether we'll ever get the fated 25th Anniversary book; Richard said that they're having copyright problems with a few people over photos. It may come out next Spring.

He said that they were looking into TNG films after 6th season; it would probably be prohibitively expensive to re-contract the cast for a seventh (eighth, etc) series.

At the start of filming STVI, not even three of the cast would have wanted to do another film, but they all had so much fun doing it that now they're all keen to do VII!

He was asked whether there'd be a 'Third Generation'? "I don't know, I don't have a crystal ball!" but he said that it was quite probable.

Trek has made \$2 billion for Paramount so far.

Gates had her baby on June 10th this year. It was a boy, weighing 8.5 lb and he's called John (Jack).

## RICHARD'S STVI TALK AND SLIDE

NOT SURPRISINGLY, THIS CONTAINS INFORMATION ON STVI; IF YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW, STOP READING HERE!

Guest cast members: Roseanne de Soto as Azetburr, David Warner as Gorkon, Christopher Plummer as Chang, Michael Dorn as Worf's grandfather, Iman as Martia, Kim Cattrall as Valeris (not Saavik), also Mark Lenard returns as Sarek and John Schuck as the Klingon Ambassador.

The dog in STVI is a Great Dane with a costume on (and what a costume).

Only the stuntmen went to Alaska, none of the actual cast.

They are still wearing the same costumes in STVI.

At this point was a slide of McCoy looking filthy and sporting a few days' stubble, "after three days at a con," said Richard!

Next came a Q & A session:

The score hasn't yet been done, Chekov is not made a captain, how big a part do the Romulans play in STVI?~ "next question"!

Hopefully the 25th Anniversary Special will come out on video, and almost

certainly (ha ha) on the BBC. The animateds will all also be released on video, including the ones that weren't last time.

By the time of TNG, Kirk would be 135, but they're not intending to say what happens to him, as it's too limiting. McCoy wasn't named in Encounter at Farpoint because Gene wanted TNG to stand on its own, but it's now successful enough for crossover stories such as 'Sarek' and 'Unification'.

There may be more novelisations of TNG episodes done, if 'Unification' sells well (and it should, it sounds great from what Richard said), and more TNG music will be released. The TNG Technical Manual should be out any time now (it's already out in the States.)

Useful information re Creation Cons: their exclusive contracts with the actors don't include anywhere outside the USA and Canada, and from the end of this year, no one will be under an exclusive contract at all, so if you live in the aforementioned countries, you've not long to wait.

Richard has been to 185 conventions! He generally attends about twenty to thirty per year, and says that it's a wonderful perk of being connected with Trek. He still collects anything to do with Trek, and the lucky (deleted) gets one of everything that the Franklin Mint produce.

\*\*\*\*\*

## A FIRST-TIMER'S GUIDE TO CONVENTIONS or 'UNITED WE STAND' AT MIDCON 1991

by Helen Luckhurst

STARDATE: 9110.5

MISSION BRIEFING: To boldly go where no girl (well... not this girl anyway) has gone before, to Leicester and to explore the strange new world of the 'convention'. I've noticed that many people talk about conventions but what *is* a convention really like? For those of you who have never been to one before, here is an account from the perception of a first-timer to the convention scene, to give you an idea of what really goes on.

Being an avid ST:TNG fan, I felt very fortunate to be able to attend Midcon this year. I'd never been to a 'con' before and didn't know what to expect. The con was a three day event; Friday, Saturday and Sunday between the 4th and 6th of October. Unfortunately I couldn't make Friday - my 'A' level teachers, poor people, don't consider the delights of Star Trek very educational! I did consider telling my English teacher that Star Trek script writers were as good as Shakespeare any day and my Biology teacher that I was going to do some research into alien blood, preferably Vulcan, but I didn't think that they'd be too sympathetic to those excuses! Instead at 9.30 am, after setting off at an unspeakably early hour from Maidstone I arrived outside the Holiday Inn hotel doors. First mission obstacle: getting past the revolving doors which had a life of their own! Once dealt with, I picked up an information package from reception who were very helpful.

I discovered that I hadn't missed too much, just the odd episodes including Best of Both Worlds - gulp! However, over the remaining two days, the programme was full to bursting point. So much to see and so little time!

My primary reason for going to a con was to see all those as yet unscreened (and probably never will be if the BBC has its way) fourth season TNG episodes. Of course, not all cons will be like Midcon and I can't compare its programme to other cons, but it was organised so that ST:TNG episodes ran in one suite, ST Classic in another, various other Science Fiction programmes from Blakes 7 to Quantum Leap in yet another while there was also a suite showing actor related movies. The largest suite was used by guests such as Richard Arnold and Scott Leva - an American

stuntman who has worked on ST; Colin Baker and Nicola Bryant (alias the sixth Doctor Who and his assistant, Peri) attended on the Sunday. On top of all this there was an auction, stunning art displays, a disco and a fancy dress - at which I saw a rather ominous looking group of Klingons that looked as though they could have walked off the set itself.

As you can see, it's important to plan what you want to really see as lots of ST episodes etc run simultaneously. When I first looked at my programme, the choice was bewildering, I didn't know where to start but don't be put off. Sarah, my friend, and I charged into the nearest lift, pressed any number and struck lucky first time as we had chosen the correct floor for the ST:TNG suite. Taking seats, with one eye on 'Remember Me' and another on the programme, we settled into a routine of ST:TNG watching.

Midcon was very organised. The many stewards present were concerned about the important things such as leaving the exit clear and when the room was packed out with about forty people all waiting to see 'Deja Q', one of them managed to open the windows for a little air!

The con started at approximately 9.00 am each day and for the die-hards on Saturday night, it finished at 1.00am. There was a system of 'prime time' viewing, meaning that fourth season episodes were shown when most people were present, hourly roughly from 11.00am to 7.00pm. Before or after these times, third season episodes of TNG were shown. The T.V. was a special large screen and the picture quality was reasonable, if a little unclear and dark, everyone seemed to have black hair! You could stay from one showing to another also, unless, like for 'Deja Q' there was a large queue outside.

I have to agree with Kay Stagg's views about children attending cons (n/l 18). They are family events but I saw some very bored under 5's in the video room! I did not see creche facilities there either. Another word of warning, don't go into the trading room in between a showing on the first morning either, unless you want to be asphyxiated or squashed flat in the process! The trading room contained the usual kits, books, zines, stationary etc. and thousands of photos of every ST character in every sort of angle, background and situation you could ever desire! Then there was the unusual such as phasers, tricorders, ready made uniforms, beautiful paintings of the characters in imaginary settings - I particularly remember the one of Geordi playing baseball and Data surrounded by a fantasy background - and even a few of the elusive Brent Spiner albums.

The food available comprised a special Midcon menu as well as the hotel's pricey alternative. If you are trying to diet, then go to a con and you'll probably lose pounds! I hardly had time to eat between the hourly episodes. Credit to the organisers though - squash was provided free in comparison to the hotel's 80p cokes! Therefore for me, the cost of the weekend was £49.00; £20 for a room at a hotel (the price halved as I shared a twin room) but not at the Holiday Inn itself - too expensive for my meagre funds, £3.50 for Saturday lunch, £3 for various snacks, admission price (pre-paid) was £22.50, and then the pocket's your limit in the trading room.

I have many favourite moments from the con which made me truly glad I went. Among them was seeing 19 TNG episodes which equals 14 1/4 hours of pure ST. To see how TNG changes and progresses into the 4th season was marvellous - every aspect of the series is suddenly bigger, bolder and better, from the visual effects to the character interaction. For the sceptics or those who haven't already seen 4th season episodes, prepare to sit back and watch it in wonder; ST:TNG finds a beautiful true identity which in my opinion, will stop comparisons between both series.

It was also exciting to hear all the latest news from 'over there'. Richard Arnold presented us with short synopsis of the 5th season episodes already produced, slides from STVI, and an exclusive sneak preview of the script for a very important 5th season TNG episode called 'Unification'. It should be of interest to

all ST fans, and that's all I'm going to say! I also saw Gene Roddenberry's copy of 'Redemption II'. I won't give the storyline away except to say a certain Denise Crosby's wig had to be seen to be believed and Data stood up for himself for once amid a roar of approval and applause from the floor. 'Darmock', only seen in America the night before at the time, was excellent - especially the Captain who looked 'damn sexy' in his leather/suede jacket!

The best aspect was the atmosphere in the con. It was so friendly. You can almost sense the feeling of 'united we stand'. Nobody's ashamed of liking ST here. Most people were older than my teenage years but the age group was wide and everyone is open to have a chat. The atmosphere in the showings is not to be missed - I shall never forget it. Despite large crowds in the video rooms, at the start of an episode silence falls and everyone is engrossed. It is the indescribable feeling of sharing and enjoying episodes together with great people who get as much out of ST as you do. The whole room laughs together when it is funny and sighs when it is sad. You are no longer a fan on your own but caught up in a mass of like-minded people. The reaction to each joke, each scene, is so positive, it's fantastic and amazing!

So was it all worth it? The answer is a BIG YES! A convention is a *must* for any Star Trekaholic, a remedy to all your problems - or perhaps it'll make you worse! If you don't fancy sitting through endless episodes of ST till you can hear the rousing title-music ringing in your ears, then go for the atmosphere and the latest news.

And as for another convention for me next year? Just try and keep me away!

\*\*\*\*\*

## SENT TO COVENTRY (HA HA): T'KON '91

A report by Helen White

5.00pm, Friday 18th October 1991; myself, Jo and Jim arrived at the Novotel, Coventry, for T'Kon '91. Having sorted out our room, we moved to the registration desk, whereupon I fell over my bag, squashing a finger on the table and bashing my head on the 'fence' surrounding the lobby. I was helped to my feet, and we went to our room.

After dumping our luggage, we went to get some supper, where we met John Carrigan (oh dear, I spelt his name wrong in my Ne'a'driar report, sorry John) and Lynn, his 'other half'. We had a jolly good chat, and then went to the opening ceremony, followed by a 'demonstration' of Klingon love-making....

Next came the 'T-shirt party', so called because the idea was that we all wore one such item. John went round collecting 10p off everyone not in a T-shirt, to go to the charity, while the rest of us went to the bar for cocktails (or in my case, a coke.) Jo had her favourite, Picard's Pleasure, Lynn had an Uhura's Folly and Jim had a Photon Torpedo. I had a taste of all three, and my findings were yum, ugh and ugh! After standing at the bar for a bit, chatting and having silly conversations with the barman, we moved into the disco, where we had a whale of a time dancing to various theme tunes, such as The Monkees. One highlight was the Joe 90 dance, which I'd never managed to catch before, and which is great fun.

We then retired to bed, via the evening's menu-board which was still in the lobby, and which we felt benefitted from certain additions such as Rok'egh Blood Pie.....

Saturday, and we would have had a lie-in but for my new (malfunctioning) alarm-clock... After brekky, we went to the three dealers' rooms (one at a time, of course) and spent some money, ho hum. Afterwards, we went on the tribbie hunt



(tribbles were hidden around the grounds of the hotel and we had to find them all); I was very successful, I don't think, and found one (out of forty!)

Next was the Sci-fi quiz, where Jo, myself and another lady whose name I didn't catch formed the 'Really Really Stupid and Dim Team'. We lived up to our name, coming last out of approx. ten teams, having scored 5/12.

On my way back to the bar, I was accosted by Kathy and Sue (two of the committee) who told me that a man from Sky News was at the con and wanted someone with pointed ears as a scene for his report. I agreed to sit at the bar for him, and was filmed looking at my con-book.

Next stop was Dealers' Room 3, where I watched Jim being put into his Klingon head/make-up, and chatted to friends. I then went to see the end of the auction, which I'd been trying to avoid (two cons and a Sumo Tournament in two weeks does not lead to a large supply of funds, I fear) and where I ended up buying a dress (costume), which I'm actually very pleased with.

After helping to sort out the auction sales, I went back into the main hall for John's stunt display, which was excellent. He had two other blokes with him, and demonstrated various fighting techniques, including a breath-taking fight with real knives. He pointed out that 'real' fighting would be too fast for a camera to catch, so things have to be artificially slowed down for films/TV.

Following John's demo, Jo and I took part in The Next Generation Game. The first two pairs had to match up Trek words, then build a model of the Enterprise out of Play-doh, which reduced the audience to a state of total hysteria. After that, it was our turn. Our first game involved matching names of captains to their ships, and was, surprisingly, incredibly difficult, owing to the time limit involved. We managed to win the game, however (we scored 7/20, I think!) and we went on to the next. This one involved Jo miming various Trek characters to me, which I then had to guess, and which had the audience hysterical again. We also won that game, and found ourselves in the semi-final, which took the form of a spoof on The Last Outpost. First it was acted out by some of the helpers, then the teams had to have a go. We won the toss, and elected to go second, so were exiled to the corridor. This turned out to be rather lucky, as Jo was very nervous, so I impressed upon her that we should overact as much as possible, and just enjoy it. At last, we were called in, and asked to choose our parts. I had already decided that I wanted to be Riker (tee hee); what I hadn't expected was that I'd have to have a beard! It was actually made from wool, and very tickly. Clearly, a female Riker wasn't sensible anyway, so I just hammed it up as much as possible and the audience fell about. Half way through, I suddenly had a spot of inspiration from somewhere, and quietly leant against my chair. The audience appeared to find this quite jolly. They were pushed to new heights of hysteria when Jo (playing the guardian of the portal) spoke - in a Goon-type voice.... Basically, we were as silly as possible, and everyone seemed to enjoy it, so we won. This meant that we went on to the final....the conveyor belt. All the items were Trek related except possibly the 'cuddly toy', and included such objects as 'a class M planet' and 'a starship' (I kid you not.) In case you're wondering, they were all drawings. We managed to remember all the things between us, except for 'Wesley's jumper', and no, we didn't actually get them. We were most disappointed; I had plans for that planet...

After the game, we had dinner, then Jim was accosted by Pio, who was dressed as a Klingon, and invited to appear in the fancy-dress, along with another Helen, who was dressed as K'Ehleyr. We all adjourned to Pio's room, where some practising was done, then it was time for the real thing. They 're-played' the scene from 'Reunion', in which Duras discovers that K'Ehleyr has found out what he's been up to, and kills her, whereupon Worf turns up to wreak his revenge, although in this case, K'Ehleyr wasn't killed. They did the scene really well - the practising had paid off- and ended up winning the group prize. After the contest, we all toddled off to the bar for a bit, and then wended our weary way bedwards.

Sunday, and the alarm clock went off at 4.13 am.....we got up some hours later, had brekker and went to reception, where I did a phone interview with Radio Harmony (a local station), discovering that live interviews are great; you can't be edited to sound 'loony' (okay, who's that saying that I'm loony anyway?) I managed to get IDIC's address broadcast, too.

After wandering about and chatting to various friends, I went to the main hall to watch part two of *Trek Endurance*, where I found the contestants being forced to eat lukewarm Pot Noodles. Ugh! Mind you, one of them later informed me that it tasted no worse than usual....

Next came part two of the sci-fi quiz, and owing to the addition of Paul (Anson, I think) to our team, we leapt up the rankings to finish in third place, gosh.

Following the quiz was John's talk, which was pretty well the same as at Ne'a'driar (see n/1 18), and then came the closing ceremony. This was enlivened by a TNG skit involving 'Lwaxana Troi' (Kerry Endacott).

After the closing ceremony was the World Premiere of *Die Hardly*, the film that had taken a year in post-production - it was being filmed at T'Kon '90. It was great fun, and very well done.

Once the film had finished, we drove home, with Jim still in full Klingon make-up and me still in my pointed ears. And yes, we did stop on the way, at a Little Chef, where we nearly gave a waitress heart-failure, oops, sorry. We sat and ate in silent hysteria, with everybody staring (and trying to look as if they weren't); the perfect end to an absolutely excellent convention.

\*\*\*\*\*

## PARDON ME, IS THIS PLANET TAKEN?

Presented by the Edinburgh Players, script by John Jakes and Gilbert M Martin (script published by Charteris plays)

Review by Jean Sloan

This musical comedy features Captain Jamie Church; Lt. Frok, a female Vulcan; Romeo, an amorous android; Wilma Dale, Chief Nurse; Sumu and Wolowitz at Navigation and Weapons; and the Starship Empire, the worst ship in the fleet, ready to be broken up for spares.

Captain Church is assigned to this disaster of a ship with its unruly crew because he upset Captain Pinkerton by breaking his engagement to the Admiral's daughter. Pinkerton sends his nephew Streak Rogers along to spy on Church and gather information for Church's dismissal; the Admiral is sure the young Captain will be destroyed by his impossible command. On its first mission the Empire tackles pirates and the inhabitants of Linjafoon - a very strange race. Of course Church unites the crew, and the faithful Frok fixes the engines; Wilma Dale wins over the execrable Streak by falling in love with him. Romeo finds his mate in the person of the leader of the pirates who turns out to be an android too. As the show ends the relationship between Church and Frok is moving in a very interesting direction.

The show is full of jokes relating to the Star Trek universe which unfortunately the audience on the night I went largely missed; I would love to have seen the production with a Trek audience. Though I normally dislike parody I thoroughly enjoyed the evening. The performance was lively, energetic and well choreographed; the musical numbers were well delivered, particularly the theme song which I still find myself humming. The staging was excellent, good use being made of the small space available and of sound effects to present the starship. There

was much humour to enjoy - Nigel Sanderson who played Pinkerton and the manic leader of the Linjafoonians was excellent. Paul Holmes gave an interesting performance as the android, but for me it was Captain Jamie Church who stole the show, unflappable in the face of having to take a prompt (it was the first night - little hitches like that will be ironed out).

My thanks to Kathleen Glancy for bringing the production to my attention; I would probably have missed it in the rather dense Fringe programme.

\*\*\*\*\*

## JOHN DE LANCIE AT SILVERCON

reported by Allison Rooney

I've edited some of John's talk as it repeated some of what has already been mentioned in Sheila's report (N/L 18) on John and Marnie's talk.

After a rapturous greeting by the audience and a scurrilous question about what John wore under his kilt, he got straight down to business.

He was asked if he would write the scripts for any more ST comics and he said he definitely would not write any more as the editor of the particular comic he worked on changed and he didn't like the end product.

Next he was asked what his children think of him playing Q. John replied that putting on a fierce look and saying "Don't do that" only works a couple of times. When Hide and Q was shown, his son said to a bunch of his school friends, "Go ahead, tell them, Daddy. Tell them if they are bad you'll freeze them!"

When asked about his favourite episode John said he didn't like 'favourite' questions as he couldn't answer them and that parts of each episode were enjoyable. He liked the Borg episode because it was most like science fiction and he liked parts of Qpid.

Was John totally nude in Deja Q? Yes! He was nude all the way round; he had worn a jock strap but it hadn't worked so he just got on with it.

Asked what does Q know about Guinan that we don't, he replied that Whoopi just made the scene up and that 'you people' (the fans) fill it in. He thought that 100 years before, Guinan and Q were probably a bad date - the kind you are happy never to see again and then suddenly you do. So you make the best of it.

Someone then asked how he was enjoying Scotland. He especially liked the distillery he'd been to, and if anyone had any idea for places to visit to please let him know.

Next he was asked if he had the choice of another part in ST: TNG which part he would like - his reply, "What other part is there?!!!! Although he did concede that he had been considered for the part of Riker.

Why does John always play the bad guy parts? Because according to him he is a bad person. No, really, it's because in America if you are a leading man and not really a character actor, and speak well - that is, enunciate your words - that means you are inherently evil; that there is something wrong with you and that's why he plays so many lawyers and bad doctors.

Workwise, John was going to do a play next and had just finished a film called Arcade - he played an evil (of course) drug crazed photographer and his gay twin antique dealer brother.

John said that he hadn't been a fan of original Trek because he had been 18 at that time and at 18 he had something other to do with his time than watch TV.

When asked if he'd like to be Q in real life, he suddenly *became* Q and then said, "Sure, why not? Wouldn't you?" His wife and children often said he walked around the house acting like Q.

When asked about the atmosphere on the ST set, he said that one crew was very much like another. There was a saying that you don't get paid to act, you get paid to wait. There is a lot of waiting on a film set and the socialising only happens because everyone is brought together. Normally it was very businesslike. For instance, Michael Dorn who plays Worf starts at 4.30 am and works till 8 or 9 pm, sometimes more. You lose your sense of playfulness after a while and just want to get the job done. But everyone was very nice and amiable - very professional.

Asked if Corbin Bernsen was likely to be back, John said that he didn't know. Usually you only got the script 1 or 2 days before starting and had no idea when a script was likely to be in the works. He was called up and asked if he could work on a certain date, and it went on from there. For Hide and Q he received the script the night before. You learn to appreciate the regulars of TNG because that is usually what happens to them.

John was asked about his costumes and how long it took him to get ready. In the first episode John had to go in many times for fittings as he had so many costumes, but it usually didn't take him long to get ready, and he did enjoy the costume changes for Q.

Is there any relationship between Trelane and Q? According to John, and he should know, Trelane is his son! He'd never seen The Squire of Gothos until someone sent him a copy and he was rather taken aback by the similarities. He hadn't known about it although Gene wrote both parts.

John watches ST:TNG occasionally and he likes what he sees and thinks it better than Classic Trek - but that's because he looks at production values which are better, and it's this that holds his attention a lot of the time.

He doesn't like watching himself on TV or films - the last time he did he went to bed for a day! Film has a way of telling the truth and the truth isn't always what you want to see.

On being asked about embarrassing moments he told the tale of coming back from Japan to start Encounter at Farpoint. He had just arrived and there was a scene where the judge is sitting on top of a crane; well, he had to stay up there for a very long time. He'd been fine until after lunch when he began to totter about and they decided to chain him in. This let him take cat naps and they would wake him up when they needed him to say a line.

Talking about obsessive fans, John told a story about walking down a street in New York when he encountered a guy he could see had homed in on him from half way down the street. He was rather unsavoury and John thought that was it, a mugging in broad daylight. The man said, "You're Q." John said "Yeah." "Can you bring people back from the dead?" The mugging was still on, John thought. Q to the rescue! "Only people I like." "Yeah!" the ex-mugger said, and walked away.

Next John was asked if it was his wife's first time in England. The lynch mob had to be restrained! Once the (good-natured) hullabaloo had died down, John replied that it was Marnie's first convention.

ST is a show that attracts a lot of merchandising - how did John feel about this? If he got paid for seeing his face all over, he'd be delighted. He'd earned \$98 in 4 years from merchandising and it was really the dealers who made the most out of it. It had certainly surprised him when someone stuck a doll of him in his face and asked him to sign it!

Would John like to see Q in a kilt in the future? He was sure the suggestion would be sent to Paramount. He'd been told that 20% of the story ideas that came from the fans were Q stories. Was his kilt comfortable? Yes, although when he first put it on he kept thinking that something was open in the back.

John was then asked if he would write a Q episode, but he didn't think so as he'd had so many problems writing the comic book script. Writers were in a terrible position; they wrote something, thought it was great, gave it to the producer who changed it around. Everyone, especially in the movie business, has to put his 2c worth in to justify what he's being paid so the metamorphosis of the script from start to finish must be very difficult for the writer. John could maintain a certain amount of control when he played Q, as in Qpid, which was very whimsical; John felt Q had to be a little bit mad, bad and dangerous to know so he played him a little harder.

Asked about working with Patrick Stewart, John said it was wonderful because as any good actor knows, what makes good acting is when you are pushed, you push back.

John was asked how much of the Q character was scripted for him and how much was his interpretation of him. The words are almost written in stone, but clearly if someone else played Q it would be a different character altogether. The outline has been written, but the actor can bring the guts to the part. Q is really a manifestation of what John had brought to the role.

Trek made its biggest impression on John when after he made Farpoint he was at the Smithsonian National Museum. He went to the aerospace part, looking at the X15 and The Spirit of St Louis, the Mercury capsule... and there was a model of the Enterprise!

He's done some TV commercials but considers them pretty much of a cattle call. He prefers to do voiceovers. No matter who you are (or what you're being asked to do) you have to audition.

John then went on to talk about acting in general, parts he would have liked to play and how he auditioned for Star Trek.

\*\*\*\*\*

## SILVERCON '91 - THE SCOTTISH CONVENTION

reported by Jacqueline Comben

Never trust the Post Office! When I realised I had misread the Registration Fee for Silvercon, I hurriedly sent a cheque for the difference. The result was a 'phone call from kind Leslie, to tell me she had received *that* cheque, but not my original one. If I had not needed to write again, I might have been in real trouble on arrival, e.g. no room! As it was... all was well. I had been keen to go since MidCon last year when the SilverCon Committee worked so hard for us as Stewards.

My arrival was... novel. The hotel was literally part of the station, but I flew up, so came to the street entrance in my taxi. As I pushed my way into the foyer, I met a group coming out. "It's unusual to be here before you," said Pam Clarke. As I began to answer, I found my bags being gently taken from my unresisting grasp. "I really don't think the Guest of Honour should carry my bags in!" I told John de Lancie, but his politeness won out and he ushered me before him!! (I suspect my age was showing!!).

This was my 'Con-off'! I wasn't even a Steward. I did not run that Desk! The only helpful thing I did was wave the IDIC Guide Dog Collection Box. I did this at the entrance to the Main Hall just before the Opening Ceremony. It ended

up so heavy I could hardly lift it! The Scots are *generous* folk. Also, some people have hinted that they did not dare pass me without contributing!

There will never be an Opening Ceremony to cap this one! Only the Scots could do it! The guests were piped in from the back of the Hall, so we all had a fine view of them as they made their way to the stage! Richard and friend marched along behind the piper. Then Marnie Mosiman was announced and walked in alone. She is John's wife, a singer and actress, who played the female member of the Chorus in *Loud as a Whisper*. She is a very sweet lady.

Next - the item to end all items! The piper, having nipped out and circled to the main door again, led in John... and if you're female and haven't seen John de Lancie in a kilt... gee you don't know what you missed! He looked *GORGEOUS*! Whether he ended up buying that outfit, I'm not sure, but I know Marnie wanted him to. There were a lot of folk who asked him if he was dressed in true Scottish style... er... in every way. We never really got a definite answer and he was careful how he sat down! You guess is as good as mine!

John's talks, one with Marnie answering questions too, were great. I will never cease to admire the actors who can get a script one night and produce a fine performance next day, with no chance of rehearsal. Why U.S. TV works that way, I'm not sure, but clearly many attendees couldn't quite take it in, as they kept asking if he would be playing Q again, a fact of which he has no advanced knowledge.

Richard had brought a lead-in video to STVI in which Nick Meyer chatted. Much better was the glorious 'collage' of clips from Original Series Episodes and Movies... beautifully produced. I want a copy! We also saw a great 'Tribute to Gene Roddenberry' covering his entire career, with most of the Trek cast contributing. Richard showed some slides from STVI, notable for the large number of Klingons, Mark Lenard as Sarek and one of Spock with a youngish looking female Vulcan on his arm. Mmm?? We shall see!!!

On the Saturday evening I had the pleasure of joining Janet, Sheila and Valerie for a Chinese meal. We rather underestimated how long it would take... so returned very late for the Room Party. As this was to be in my room, the only other EO's member I *know* was aiming to come had given up on us and gone to bed! Sorry, Marion! If anyone else tried to attend... grovel! Sorry! Will do better in future!! Janet, Sheila, Valerie and I had a 'mini' EOs Room party. They had insisted on paying for my meal, as well. Thank you, girls! I owe you one!

We ate together again on the Sunday, but timed things better, so we were back for the Ceilidh. Only the Scots could have a Ceilidh at a con and it was great. Maybe next year (yes folks, see ad. for Contagion!!) I'll try dancing! As it was, for me the high spot was Marnie's singing. She has one hell of a voice and is great with amusing songs! John needed a sense of humour (which he has!) for one of them!

I learned what I am sure everyone else already knows, that 'Flower of Scotland' is not an ancient ballad, but was written by the Corries of whom (gulp) I had never heard. Janet has since given me a video of them and I wish so much I had come across them before Roy's death. I am now a fan!

By the way, the Con bar, looking over the Station concourse, was really very like Ten Forward, save that we looked at trains instead of stars! The Central is a good Con hotel.

Notable fact about Silvercon - there were some 770 attendees and about 80 to 90% of them were at their first Con!! It isn't easy for someone from the Highlands to get to, say, Birmingham... to say nothing of the poor folk from Stornoway and the Shetlands! Scotland needs its own Con, unless the so-called British Cons move further north. I know Birmingham seems a long way from the south coast, but it's no distance at all compared to Inverness to Glasgow!! Quite a few fans had never heard of Cons before... A case in point: On the Monday (a holiday in Scotland -

unlike most Con Mondays fixed for English Bank Holidays!) *[Janet: Actually it was only a holiday in Glasgow, Jacqueline - Scottish holidays are complicated with each town having its own]* - Janet, Sheila and I went looking for sandwiches in a Hotel bar. We met a lass with her arm in a sling, hand all splinted up. "Oh, what have you done to yourself?" enquired Sheila, concerned. "Oh, it's broken," came the cheerful reply. We wondered why the lass was so happy to be hurt. "Well," she explained, "if I hadn't broken my hand, I would have been able to cook, but as it was, I went out for a take-away and I saw an advert for the Con... and came straight over! To think, I so nearly missed it!"

I sincerely hope we will advertise more in future so that it is not necessary for fans to break their bones to find out about conventions!

I guess we may have helped. Finding Valerie and Marion being interviewed by a reporter from The Scotsman, who clearly aimed to print a story to the effect that TNG fans and Original fans are bitter enemies, I joined in to try and set her straight. The result had Valerie described as "a jolly librarian from Saltcoats" and me, with a year *added* to my age, only avoiding being quoted as saying that most scientists are illiterate by yelling, "Don't quote me!" as soon as I'd said it! Sorry, folks, I was quoted as running a 'club for Elderly Trekkers'!!! The article could have been worse. At least some our comments were put in accurately, but if that is what the serious press do, heaven help us if interviewed by The Sun!!

The Scots, having embarrassed me more than somewhat by insisting I came to the Stewards' Party when I wasn't a Steward... (they *are* sweet folk!)... made the Closing Ceremony special too... with singing of 'The Road to the Isles' and 'Scotland the Brave'. I wished they had sung 'Flower of Scotland', and many agreed, but it turns out the Committee did not want the English to feel unwanted... due to that glorious line (well, I'm Welsh!) about sending Proud Edward's army homeward to think again! (We didn't manage that, but were conquered. I think the Scots should sing it and be proud of it!!)

If you are English, you *will* be just as welcome at Contagion as any Celt... and I strongly recommend it as a Con to go to next year!

First printed in Enterprise Originals N/L 18.

\*\*\*\*\*

## STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION 3RD SEASON INTERESTING INFO ABOUT THE SEASON

by Mike Mullen

This article is not intended to reveal plot details, but this is unavoidable in some instances. If you don't want to know these details please read with care, You have been warned.

### EVOLUTION (US airdate 23/9/89)

This episode features the return of Dr. Crusher. It was filmed 2nd, but shown 1st. The episode over-ran by 12 minutes and several scenes were cut. Scott Grimes and Amy O'Neil had all their scenes cut. They were to play Eric, Wesley's friend, and girlfriend Annette. They did not receive a credit.

### ENSIGNS OF COMMAND (US airdate 30/9/89)

Gosheven (guest star Grainger Hines) had his lines redubbed by Matt McHeaney, on the orders of the producers. Matt's voice was also used for the Sheliak (originally scripted as the Tholians). His voice was also used for Armus in 'Skin of Evil'. Grainger Hines subsequently removed his name from the credits. The shuttlecraft Onizuka was named after the late Challenger astronaut Ellison S. Onizuka.

**SURVIVORS (US airdate 7/10/89)**

The original title was 'The Veiled Planet'. The location shots were filmed in Malibu. The director of this episode, Les Landau, also directed 'Deja Q', 'Sins of the Father' and 'Sarek'.

**WHO WATCHES THE WATCHERS (US airdate 14/10/89)**

Much of the episode was filmed at Vasquez rocks. The first use of Vulcans as a guest race, even if they were only Proto-Vulcans.

**THE BONDING (US airdate 14/10/89)**

This was a spec script submitted by Ronald D. Moore who has since become Story Editor. Michael Piller became Co-Executive Producer with this show. The story was heavily rewritten and originally dealt with the issue of Holodeck addiction. The role of a teacher (played by Ramond D. Turner) was later cut due to over-running. The weapon seen in this episode was the same as that used to kill Kirk's son in Star Trek 3.

**BOOBY TRAP (US airdate 28/10/89)**

This was the first story commissioned for the 3rd season. The Teleplay was written by Richard Danus who later wrote 'Deja Q' and became Executive Story Editor for a while. The first glimpse was made of the shipyard that constructed the Enterprise. Christy, played by Julie Warner, made her first appearance - later to appear in 'Transfigurations'.

**THE ENEMY (US airdate 4/11/89)**

Originally titled 'Mettle of Man'. Directed by David Carson, who did the same for 'Yesterday's Enterprise'. Tomalak made his first appearance in the show.

**THE PRICE (US airdate 11/11/89)**

First titled 'A Price Far Above Rubies'. It originally featured a scene between Troi and O'Brien when his girlfriend is named as Mitzi. Hanna Louise Shearer, the writer, was Executive Story Consultant in the 1st season. The episode was directed by Robert Sheerer, whose other directing credits include 'The Defector' and 'Tin Man'.

**THE VENGEANCE FACTOR (US airdate 18/11/89)**

An episode of many titles including: 'The Human Factor', 'The Vengeance' and 'The Weapon'. Sovereign Marouk (Nancy Parsons) may be better known for her role in 'Porky's'. Yuta (Lisa Wilcox) may also be better known by some for her appearance in 'Nightmare on Elm Street 4'. Gene Roddenberry ordered the ending to be altered, but the original ending made it to the screen. Timothy Bond directed this episode along with 'The Most Toys'.

**THE DEFECTOR (US airdate 30/12/89)**

Previously known as 'A Question of Trust'. The opening excerpt was originally to be Sherlock Holmes, but because of continuing legal problems was reworked with Patrick Stewart's aid. Before the story went through the rewrite stage there was a strong love interest between Dr. Crusher and Jarok. Admiral Tomalak (Andreas Katsulas) makes a return appearance.

**THE HUNTED (US airdate 6/1/90)**

Also known as 'Let the Hunter Beware'. The guest star Jeff McCarthy has appeared in 'Les Miserables'. This episode was directed by Cliff Bole who also directed 'Ensigns of Command', 'Matter of Perspective', 'Hollow Pursuits' and 'Best of Both Worlds'. A morality tale based on the experience of Vietnam veterans.

**THE HIGH GROUND (US airdate 27/1/90)**

The last episode written by Melinda Snodgrass. Longer scenes between Picard and Crusher hit the cutting room floor. The Police Chief originally had a name but all references were later dropped. This episode caused some controversy by mentioning the IRA and Irish reunification to illustrate a point. The only woman director so far, Gabrielle Beaumont, did this episode as well as 'Booby Trap'.



## DEJA Q (US airdate 3/2/90)

John de Lancie returns to play Q, and LA Law's Corbin Bernsen plays Q2 but is uncredited. Two English students became waiters in Ten-Forward after winning an English competition organised by Patrick Stewart. This episode received 2 Emmy nominations for Editing (single camera) and Special Visual Effects.

## MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE (US airdate 10/2/90)

A redress of the Regula One Lab from Star Trek 2 was used. Manua Apgar (Gina Hecht) was a regular in 2nd Season 'Mork & Mindy'. The artist (Elaine Sholoff) received a credit for the paintings seen in the episode teaser. The episode had a working title of 'Points of View'.

## YESTERDAY'S ENTERPRISE (US airdate 17/2/90)

The sets are heavily re-dressed and the uniforms worn by the 1701-C crew members are from the movies. Tasha Yar makes a return. There is a continuity error at the end of the episode; when the time-line is corrected, Geordi is still wearing the uniform from the Alternative Time line. Regarded by many as an excellent episode, it was given an Emmy Award for Sound Editing and nominated for Music and Sound Mix.

## THE OFFSPRING (US airdate 10/3/90)

This episode featured the directorial debut of Jonathan Frakes. This show was to originally be called 'Bloodlines'. Leonard John Crofoot played Lal before she had chosen her form. His other TNG appearance was as Trent in 'Angel One'. A scene with reference to the M-5 disaster in 'Ultimate Computer' was cut and we see the first Andorian to appear in TNG.

## SINS OF THE FATHER (US airdate 17/3/90)

This was the result of combining 2 story ideas together. The Klingon language used was based on Marc Okrand's 'Klingon Dictionary' as used in the movies. Many references were made to events that appeared or were talked about in previous episodes. Charles Cooper, who played K'mpec also appeared as General Koord in Star Trek V. This episode received an Emmy Award for Art Direction.

## ALLEGIANCE (US airdate 24/3/90)

This episode features a dance scene between Picard and Crusher. The captive Matina Haro (Joycelyn O'Brien) was a Bolian. This race was first seen in 'Conspiracy' - Captain Rixx was a Bolian. Winrich Kolbe directed this episode along with 'Evolution' and 'The Bonding'. The episode was Emmy nominated for Makeup.

## CAPTAIN'S HOLIDAY (US airdate 31/3/90)

This episode was the first to rely heavily on one character - Picard. The original ending - a replay of the beginning suggesting a time loop - was cut, the Vorgons did not get their way! The bathing suit worn by Picard was sold for \$900 in a recent IAAPS charity auction.

## TIN MAN (US airdate 21/4/90)

This episode features Riker's former commander, Captain DeSoto, played by Michael Cavanaugh. This episode featured the music of Jay Cattaway, the first musician other than Ron Jones and Dennis McCarthy to score music for the show since 'Too Short a Season'. This episode was nominated for an Emmy Award in the Special Visual Effects category.

## HOLLOW PURSUITS (US airdate 28/4/90)

Featured Dwight Shultz from the A-Team as Lt. Barclay. A story originally without the Holodeck addiction angle. This episode was nominated for an Emmy award for Hairstyling.

## THE MOST TOYS (US airdate 5/5/90)

Saul Rubinek hastily stepped in to play the role of Kavis Fajo after the sudden death of David Rappaport, who was originally cast. Many references are made to Tasha Yar, and the shuttlecraft 'Pike' was named after Christopher Pike in honour of classic Star Trek.

**SAREK (US airdate 12/5/90)**

Features the return of Mark Lenard to play Ambassador Sarek. The first TNG Vulcan mind-meld is made, with references to the original series as well. The script was based on a story called 'Passing Memories'. Much has been made that the original idea was prompted by ex-president Ronald Reagan.

**MENAGE A TROI (US airdate 2/6/90)**

Originally entitled 'Peace of Mind', co-written by Susan Sackett. Features Lwaxanna and Mr. Homn's return. Frank Corsentino played Daimon Tog in this episode as well as Damon Bok in 'The Battle'. The Betazed homeworld was filmed on location. Robert Legato, a visual effects supervisor on the show, directed this episode.

**TRANSFIGURATIONS (US airdate 9/6/90)**

Originally to be called 'The Next Step Forward'. Directed by regular Editor Tom Benko. This was conceived as a Crusher/John Doe love story. Mark LaMura is a regular cast member of 'All My Children' a popular American ABC soap opera.

**THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS (US airdate 16/6/90)**

The first of this 2-part cliff-hanger, the concluding part being the 4th season opening episode. It features the return of the Borg from 'Q Who'. Admiral Hanson, played by George Murdock, was also God in Star Trek V. The second part of this episode had not been written when this was first shown.

Sources: Enterprise America newsletter, Star Trek: The Official Fan Club, Starlog: The Next Generation Magazine, Michael Dorn Appreciation Society, International Audience Alliance for Patrick Stewart.

\*\*\*\*\*

## COMMENTS ON K'EHLEYR

by Mel Claessens

It might sound pretty sarcastic to some (pointed?) ears that Klingons are apparently able to *learn*. I myself have, at last, made this experience. The Klingon ability to learn has not only developed in some of the last TNG sequels, it has also shown in reality (whatever that may be). But let us look at the Next Generation first.

To my mind, K'Ehleyr is a very important character. Being a Klin-Human fusion, she is the one who carries a message to both the Klingons and the Humans: the message that both worlds are neither faultless nor unable to join. They are, as many of you may already have recognized, even similar in more than one respect.

In 'The Emissary' we encountered K'Ehleyr, a Klingon who was somehow new to us. Here, for the first time, we were confronted with a Klingon who treated the Klingon culture in both a serious and an ironical way.

K'Ehleyr is caught in the agony of a constant struggle between her Human and her Klingon half, the former representing the adaptable intellect, the latter standing for pride, passion and outbursts of rage. But is it not exactly that struggle which makes it possible for her to watch both cultures from a more sophisticated point of view? She is able to recognize the problems which the other Klingons prefer to ignore, and which Worf only suppresses and reconciles by living his Klingon core in a Federation shell.

'Reunion' goes even further. K'Ehleyr loses her life because for once she mixes up the Klingon and the Human idea of 'confidence'. But her life is not sacrificed for nothing. By killing her murderer Worf, so to speak, 'kills' an antiquated part of Klingon tradition.

K'Ehleyr must die because her functioning as 'living struggle' between two strange worlds is no longer needed. (Don't get me wrong: I do miss her, though). Alexander, her and Worf's son, carries on what she has started: the two worlds intermingle more and more.

Of course, there are always set-backs. In my correspondence with other Klingons, I often meet people who still regard everything non-Klingon as inferior, even detestable. That was how I myself felt for many years, and not only when someone held a door open for me I felt uneasy. Some time ago I learned that it is indeed politeness and not, as I (and many other Klingons) thought, an insult or even a threat *not* to be allowed to walk behind.

But I do not want to state that I am willing to totally accept the Human way now. What I mean is, both Humans and Klingons can and should learn from each other. It is not the question who will start. It is more a question of *how* you start. Or, to speak with Riker, it is 'A Matter of Honour'. And it is as simple as that: we do not have as many obstacles as K'Ehleyr had to overcome the seemingly huge gap between the culture of war and the culture of compromises. We simply need to look and listen to each other.

For example, I think it would not be bad if some (many) Humans learned a bit more about pride and honour, especially in regard to *respecting another person's opinions of pride and honour*. (A Vulcan would surely agree with me here). On the other hand, the Klingons will not die of adopting, say, more proper discussion manners e.g. listening to each other, and preparing oneself for an agreement. We, the Klingons, have already learned to greet each other, at least. Now we must also learn to say good bye without turning our backs to one another once we have finished the last argument.

Riker (or was it Picard?) once said to Q that the Humans have the ability to grow. Klingons have lived long enough with the idea that the only way to grow is to consume others. Now, Humans too start consuming each other again, and I think that is wrong. We should rather try to grow (slowly, if necessary), and to *grow into each other without wearing down one another*.

This is, I believe, a very unusual comment for a Klingon. You could, however, regard it as the contribution to a beginning. I would be proud of it.

Lt. Khreyha' Sutai-K'timaamva', KSF Communications Officer & Interpreter, c/o Mel Claessens, Baseler Str. 51, W-1000 Berlin 45, Germany)

\*\*\*\*\*

## THE TROUBLE WITH BEING A TREKKER

by Sharon Holmes

How did it hit you? When did it hit you? When did you first realise that you were undergoing a metamorphosis from a relatively sane human being to an obsessed Star Trek fan? Do you remember when you first discovered the Trek Universe? Can you remember the jubilation you experienced when you peeked deeper into that polystyrene rock?

Of course you do - and if for some reason you don't, your 'friends' sure do!!!

Apart from the fact that your bedroom has become a shrine to Gene Roddenberry's creation, your bookshelves are creaking under the extra weight of the latest Trek novel, the inflatable Starship 'Enterprise' is hanging from the lounge ceiling, Trek music is blaring out from your HiFi, you spend a large amount of your spare time parked in front of the TV watching old episodes, you've renamed your cat 'Captain Kirk' and called him 'Jim' for short; what really gives away your latest discovery is the look of sheer excitement which is written all over your face in

big capital letters - not to mention your continual daydreaming! I mean, you've discovered a universe which is limited only by the extent of your own imagination - an uncommon occurrence, so you're bound to undergo some changes! And boy.....don't your friends notice! This is where the trouble begins....

After your many rantings, ravings and general waffle to various friends and colleagues they eventually come round to the fact that you ARE a Star Trek fan. As they do, evil, horrible and nasty schemes are hatched in their ignorant heads on ways to tease, and generally annoy you with your new found subject of interest.... You arrive at work or college on a Monday morning to be greeted with a chorus of "Good morning, Captain Kirk," "Did you enjoy your shore leave?" (weekend) and "Is it my imagination, or have your ears become more pointed in the two days I haven't seen you?" You just smile or pass some witty remark while smirking to yourself because you know what they're missing. And of course, there's always that ONE person who says "Beam me up, Scotty," every time they pass you. Revenge is sweet when your boss asks you why you're 20 minutes late - you just reply "The transporter was malfunctioning," grin, walk out of the room and leave him/her to chew on THAT.

Eventually, when your friends realise that this is not just one of your normal fads, curiosity forces them to ask that immortal question - "But why do you like Star Trek so much?" So, you try to explain to them that there is more to Star Trek than Captain Kirk landing on a not-very-well-disguised-studio-set-planet, having a fight with a strange alien being, saying "We are on a peaceful mission" and "Ahead warp factor 1, Mr Sulu" (at the end of every episode). You attempt to explain excitement and the adventure of being able to travel the Galaxy - exploring the unknown. Also the emotional factors - like the loyalty of the crew to Kirk, the comradeship experienced by members of the crew; as well as the facts that the Earth is united - conservation is of prime importance and so forth. They listen...still don't understand, shrug their shoulders (and yawn!), still believing you belong in the nearest looney bin (and they could be right....)

Then there's your local 'friendly' Sci-fi bookshop such as Forbidden Planet - and believe me, they can see you coming! You've got 'Trekker' written all over you as you pay your usual visit to the Star Trek section. They, on the other hand, have 'Aha! Another fool ready to part with a large fraction of their disposable income' written all over them. You can see the signs in their eyes as you enter the shop. Have you been introduced to the latest tempting selection of Star Trek comics, books, videos, pins, plates, cards, posters etc. lately? I bet you have and I also bet that the manager of the shop knows your credit/cheque card number off by heart. Mind you, when the manager invites you round for dinner, you'll know you've been spending too much income.

Home from a tough day at work. The VCR has kindly recorded the latest Next Generation episode and you look forward to the end of the news, eager to watch the latest adventures of Picard and co. But, alas! your horrible mother/father brother/sister hog the video to watch today's recording of Neighbours. Being outvoted you patiently wait a further 25 minutes until everyone in your household has had their daily fix of suburban Aussie life. Eventually the video is YOURS and you settle down, ready to become engrossed - to shut out the real world and join the Enterprise on its latest mission. Unfortunately, your family is in the living room (pretending to do something other than watch "that rubbish"). Hence, snide interrupting remarks are made while you attempt to watch - "Is that a new form of salute?" asks one member of the family as Picard taps his communicator; "Urgh! what are those things with big ears?" asks another. By the time you've explained what's going on (to people who supposedly don't like the programme), you've missed half of the episode and can't rewind to catch up with it because it will clash with the nine o' clock news (or similar).

"Oh joy and rapture!!!" you cry as the local cinema advertises the fact that the latest Star Trek Movie has arrived. Desperate to view the crew of the Enterprise, you queue for hours to make sure of that prime viewing seat, ignoring the continual whinging from a friend (roped into it after a mass-begging session by

you), complaining that he/she could have spent 2 hours in the pub rather than in the freezing cold. The cinema opens, you buy your ticket and locate the best possible seat in the cinema and settle down for 2 hours of sheer luxury (the film, NOT the seats!). But of course, as ALWAYS it's either the local lager louts or the foreign students that sit behind you, isn't it? I mean, did you honestly think you could get away with watching the film in peace and quiet? It's either sexual connotations when Kirk says "Bones, I need you...badly" or the never ending "quaddiliaspiloliaqueiliaadrobionia..." rabbiting of foreigners talking about the local MacDonalds or nightclub. Socially, us Trek fans have many problems. Let's face it, we can't help talking (sometimes continually after a drop of the old alcohol) about our favourite subject. Unfortunately for us, many of our friends don't share the same enthusiasm. So, eventually we reach the stage where the mere mention of "Star Trek" brings about an extremely rapid dispersion of social colleagues amid negative mutterings and frequent, overemphasised groans.

This article contains in my view, the prime selection of everyday hassels that we have to endure for our fandom. Doubtless to say, there are more...

\*\*\*\*\*

## STAR TREKKIN' (and proud of it)

by Anne Rogers

Star Trek was born the same year as me - my mother remembers watching it when I was a baby. Perhaps that was when the seed of my fascination for science fiction, especially Star Trek, was planted.

I cannot remember the first time I watched Star Trek on the television. My early interest was encouraged by the collecting of James Blish's books of the episodes. All of these were well worn early on. I have always loved reading, there is something satisfying in settling down with a good novel and escaping into another universe for a time.

When CIC began releasing the videos of the classic series I started collecting, trying to ignore the periodic shocks of realisation of the money I was spending. On bookcase, shelf and in the video drawer, rows of dark 'Star Trek' spines stared out. I viewed each new tape with a completely fresh eye. Many episodes I didn't remember seeing before. It was as if a new world was opening in front of my eyes.

As well as being interested by the new peoples and places I met in the Star Trek Universe, I enjoyed more and more watching the way the relationships between the characters work. The development of each crew member's personality is excellently done. In the classic series the friendship between Kirk, Spock and McCoy was strong because of and in spite of their different strengths and weaknesses. Each is completely different in terms of temperament and reaction. Spock speaks silent volumes just in the tilt of head or raising of eyebrow, while McCoy sputters loudly and at length! I admit to being a huge fan of McCoy. I enjoy all the grouchiness that covers up the deeper sensitivity. Whenever we find a deeper glimpse of McCoy - either in the episodes or in a novel - I am totally riveted. (One of the novels which I enjoyed very much is 'Crisis on Centaurus', which I would recommend to any McCoy fan.)

In The Next Generation the character relationships have developed in a less centrally focussed way. Some people feel that this is negative, but I enjoy the diversity and personally think that the relationships are just as interesting as those in the classic series.

I believe that the strength of loyalty and friendship shown in Star Trek is something that attracts many people into its ranks. After all, most people hope for friends who will stand with them no matter what happens.

I personally find it encouraging that the Enterprise crew members are not perfect beings. They sometimes have tough decisions to make quickly and they do not always make the right choices. Yet in spite of their mistakes, they are not rejected out of hand as failures. The situations are faced up to and worked through. For someone like myself, often staring into the faces of my own mistakes, it helps me to realise that 'all is not lost', and to appreciate those of my friends who help me sort things out!

When the BBC began airing *The Next Generation* I have to confess to a good deal of suspicion. I couldn't believe that I would be as hooked as I was by the original Enterprise and her crew. For quite a while I was unsure, though sufficiently interested to keep setting up the video each week. As the episodes went by I soon realised I was as much a fan of Enterprise D as of those that went before.

About the time of this revelation, something happened which fanned the sparks of my enthusiasm into flame. I was given about 60 novels by the sister of a friend, who was marrying and moving house. Most of them were added to my collection (after solving the immediate problem of where on earth to put them all), duplicate copies went to various friends and relatives who were also followers of Star Trek. I was reading these books for months! I like the way a good writer can develop or explain subtle characteristics and details through their books and some have become firm favourites, to be read over again. One such is 'The Covenant of the Crown', and as someone who likes a good detective yarn, another is 'The Vulcan Academy Murders'.

I had of course known for a long time that there are many more people who enjoy Star Trek than you might think! It seems to me that many folk who actively follow Star Trek are viewed as mildly eccentric by their friends and relatives.

A long-suffering friend of mine certainly thought I was at the least eccentric while we were on holiday a couple of years ago. We went off to the cinema one night, only to discover that the film we had gone to see was no longer showing. However, in its place was one of the Star Trek movies. As my friend didn't want to see it, and I definitely did, we spent the evening in two different cinemas! From my point of view it was worth it - I'd never seen any Star Trek on the big screen before and it certainly makes it very impressive. It was great! Fortunately my friend also enjoyed the film that she'd seen, so all was well.

Once you begin to mention clubs and conventions the balance tips from 'mildly eccentric' to 'on the verge of extreme or worse!!' I discovered by accident this huge section of Trek fandom after finding out about Sol III purely by chance. Writing for further information resulted in the arrival not only of the requested material, but also details of various clubs. People I wrote to were informative and interesting in their responses and within 30 seconds of meeting a total stranger who showed his colours as a Trekker we were deep in conversation about our common interest.

As yet I have not come across snobbery in Trekkers. Most people seem happy to go on for hours about their personal favourite character, book, episode, actor etc.! They also seem to be an ingenious bunch - I was amazed at some of the costumes created. There were these Klingons... Well, suffice to say that I wouldn't have picked a fight.

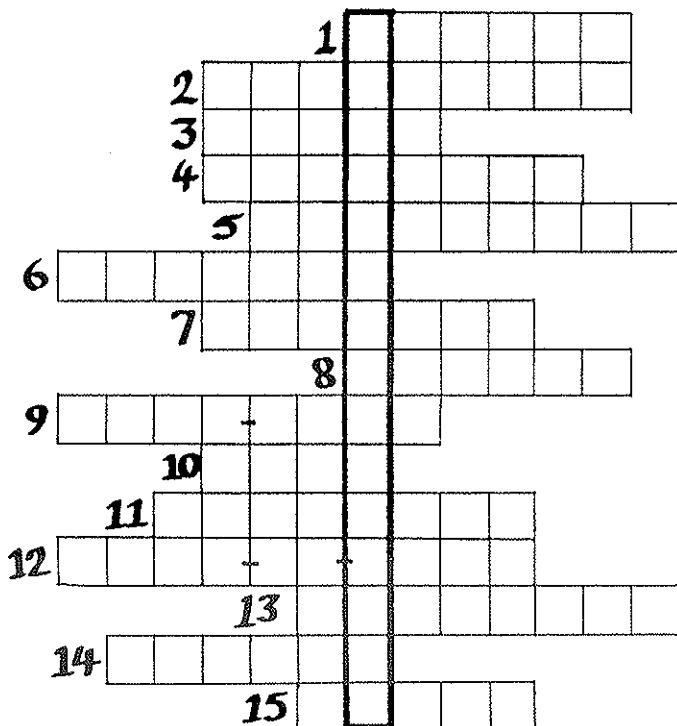
This weekend I'm off to my very first con. I wonder what it'll be like? I'm dipping in my toe to see if they're for me, but I'm sure I'll soon be off to one of the national cons.

Star Trek had given me a great deal in terms of enjoyment. I've spent hours sharing the voyages of the Starship Enterprise through the novels and episodes, I've met new people with the same interest. I'm looking forward to getting more involved in the future.

Set course then... 'Heading: Star Trek fandom, fun and friendship'.  
Warp Six - Engage.

\*\*\*\*\*

## STAR TREK PUZZLE



### Clues:

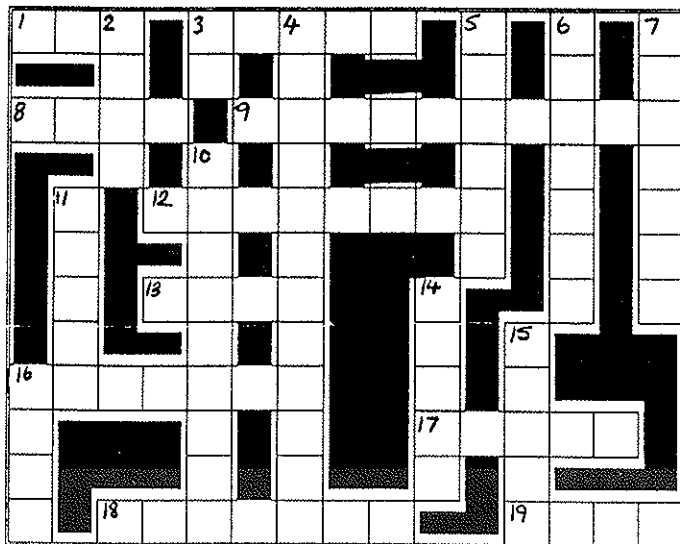
1. Character played by Whoopi Goldberg
2. Sulu's ship (STVI)
3. Creator of Data
4. The T of James T Kirk
5. Original Trek episode; The \*\*\*\*\* Maneuver
6. Enterprise shuttlecraft
7. Actress playing Dr Katherine Pulaski
8. Race of Lt Ilia in ST:TMP
9. Captain Picard's favourite tea
10. Character played by Ricardo Montalban
11. George and Gracie whales
12. Tasha Yar's farewell episode
13. Those little furry pests
14. Whale biologist Gillian
15. Spock's half-brother in TFF

Complete the puzzle to reveal someone vital to Star Trek in the centre.

Answer on page 77.

# STAR TREK CROSSWORD

by Alex. Pidd



## Clues

### Across

1. Top priority alert: 3
3. He doesn't like being beamed: 5
8. Kirk does something about his wrath: 4
9. James T. Kirk commanding: 10
12. See 17 Across
13. See 10 Down
16. This ship found 8 Across again: 7
17. N.C.C.: 5, 12, 8 (& 12A, 40)
18. Mr. Spock is in command of this department: 7
19. Kirk's friend Tyree's wife: 4

### Down

2. 3 Across's diagnosis is it's worse than that Jim: 4
3. Professor Daystrom's rogue invention: 2
4. See 17 Across
5. Kirk finds one of these is a real gem: 6
6. Saavik is transferred to this Starship: 7
7. Gothos's entertaining host: 7
10. It set sail for the Promised Land: 9, 4 (& 13A)
11. This Final Frontier is big, very big: 5
14. Mr. Flint's companion: 5
15. This Galileo was Magnificent: 5
16. Charlie X had a crush on her: 4

Solution on page 77.

\*\*\*\*\*



# ST:TNG WORD WORKOUT

by Jim Redrup

Each main grid number represents a letter (eg. if 6 turns out to be the letter G, then write G in all the spaces numbered 6) Every letter in the alphabet has been used. There are four letters already in the check-grid to start you off. Best of luck!

5			24	10	23	4	10	16	11				5	26	
26			4			3						20		18	
8			19		17	8	26	8	4	15	11	10		6	
11			18			9						21			
20	15	11	6			8		20		7				6	
8			15		10	18	26	10	11	14	11	19	5	10	
5			18			8		26		19				15	
10		25	5	5				8		17		3	15	11	2
				15				22						17	
11	15	13	25	4	8	18		15		3		19	17	19	12
							11	19	24	10	11				
1	25	5	26	19	12	10		17		5					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				S			A				C	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
						B						

Answer on page 77.

\*\*\*\*\*

## MY KIND OF TREK

by Maggy

I am what I am.

- But what am I?

An aging hippy? A Flower Child whose mind never grew up? A dreamer, a Romantic, a mad woman stuck in a time warp? A shy alien in a strange world. A definite insomniac. Shy.

All of these.

I live a conventional life during the daytime. I walk the kids to school, cook and clean, but no-one knows I'm really out in the darkness of space. As I travel on the bus it becomes the Enterprise. The shopping centre is a Starbase filled with alien crews on shore leave.

At night (time of writing this is 3.40 am) I prow the house reading zines and novels and when they run out I try to write my own. A difficult job when I can't spell.

I watch my Star Trek videos (I've two copies of some, in case they wear out!) I've tried to like TNG, but I lost my heart to Spock so it's not the same. I try to be fair to the show in the way of IDIC, but it's hard.

My favourite shows are Amok Time, Journey to Babel... but I could go on till I list them all. My favourite novels are Black Fire and Ishmael. I love all zines.

I went to LA and stood by the stars on the Walk of Fame belonging to Leonard, Bill and Gene. Probably as near to them as I'll get, but as I stood there an American Trekker said "Hello". I really felt part of the world-wide family of Trekkers. A great feeling. Instead of being the alien alone, I belonged.

Just like Spock must have felt when he met Kirk.

\*\*\*\*\*

## MY KIND OF TREK

by Steve Davies

I think it's reasonable to say that I grew up with Star Trek - we're both 25 this year - and I sincerely hope it's still around after another quarter century. I can't remember *when* I first watched it, but there have always been certain episodes that have stuck in my memory - mainly the ones with 'scary monsters' in them. After seeing Operation Annihilate for the first time at a very impressionable age I spent weeks afterwards glancing nervously at ceilings! As for the Horta... That scared me in a way that all good Dr. Who monsters used to!

I guess that round about the time Star Wars was released my interest flagged somewhat, but it all came back with renewed vigour the first time I saw TMP on the big screen. Now I can actually afford it, I'm collecting *all* the original series (24 to go at last count!) and going out of my way to watch TNG every Wednesday.

My favourite original episodes have to be City on the Edge of Forever, The Trouble With Tribbles (why weren't there *more* with that quality of humour? Laugh? I nearly pass out every time I see it!) The Enemy Within, Charlie X, Devil in the Dark, Operation - Annihilate, The Paradise Syndrome and All Our Yesterdays. Just for the record, I think the worst episode ever made was The Alternative Factor.

I have never seen the animated series and if anyone knows how I can get hold of any episodes of it I'd appreciate it.

I hardly get the time to read ST novels but of the few I have read, The Pandora Principle has to be by far the best - why hasn't Paramount snapped this little gem up as a film script?

I was hooked on TNG after 3 or 4 episodes and it's getting better; I can safely say there hasn't been one *completely* duff episode yet. I know he doesn't get to do much, but my favourite character has to be Chief O'Brien. I hope we get to see more of him in the future.

Finally, the movies - let me start by saying I don't *dislike* any of them. ST-TMP would have made a better TNG pilot than a first big screen adventure for the *original* cast. Try to imagine the TNG crew in TMP and you'll see what I mean. TWOK, TSFS and TVH fit nicely together as a trilogy and I think that's great; each film draws strength from the other two. I think STV was let down by not being part of that continuing story but rather a separate thing altogether. STV is still great, I just like to dream of what it *could* have been; still, STVI is going to more than make up for it, isn't it?

\*\*\*\*\*

## CLASSIC STAR TREK REVIEWS

THE CAGE (1) Written and Produced by Gene Roddenberry  
Reviewed by Edward Woo

This original pilot is now part of the ST video collection. I recently saw it, and you can see why this story was good enough to get a second pilot. It has an excellent story-line, with the idea of cages for species from different parts of the galaxy, just like here on Earth, where Humans cage, study and experiment with animals.

Captain Christopher Pike is our hero, and I wonder how the series would have developed if Jeffrey Hunter had stayed in the role. Very few of the original cast returned apart from Spock, the old country doctor character, and Majel Barrett. It's a pity the Number One character was lost as she would have made a difference on the bridge in terms of story lines.

The visual presentation of this story looked poor, especially the personal communicators, and those view monitors that stood out on the consoles were quite distracting. The phasers were good, with a twist action to increase power.

I felt Spock spoke a little too quickly, and his appearance was not quite right. The bridge crew seemed at times too serious and militaristic to allow time for relaxation. I see the idea of mission jackets was used again in the ST movies, and this should be so. No doubt more money was available in the second pilot to improve things visually and storywise.

If you have not seen The Cage it is well worth watching just to see how Star Trek began and took its first steps to success despite the network bosses' interference.

MAN TRAP (6) Written by Clayton Johnson, Produced by Gene Roddenberry.  
Reviewed by Martin Stahl

The Enterprise is in orbit about the planet M 113 where the archaeologist Professor Crater and his wife Nancy live. They are researching the ruins of a dead civilisation. Dr. McCoy beams down for the annual medical examination of the scientists. Nancy Crater is an old friend of McCoy's, but he doesn't know that this isn't really Nancy. It is the last one of its kind, a being that can change its shape and that needs salt to survive. A year ago it killed Nancy to get the salt which was in her body, has taken her shape, and lives now with Prof. Crater, who supplies it with salt. The salt vampire kills several crewmen and comes aboard the ship, where it takes the shape of the sleeping McCoy. When the salt vampire tries to kill Kirk McCoy must understand that it is not Nancy, and kill it.

Although THE CAGE is the very first Star Trek episode, THE MAN TRAP is the first episode shown on TV. On September 8th 1966, Star Trek was born with this episode. As a rule at that time SF shows were about alien invaders from outer space... and the first scene of Star Trek that was ever shown on TV presented an alien that looks like the devil himself sitting in the Captain's chair.

According to rumours NBC chose THE MAN TRAP as the first episode because it was one of the few episodes that presented a real monster, although we see the salt vampire's real shape only in one scene at the end of the show. Surely it was no bad idea. The episode was also a good choice because each one of the main characters has his/her scene: Uhura meets the salt vampire in the shape of the African crewman and speaks a few words in Swahili with him; Sulu spends his free time in the botany lab, and Janice Rand brings him food. That is one of the few occasions we see the supporting characters other places than at their stations and saying "Hailing frequencies open." Only Scotty doesn't appear in THE MAN TRAP. (Chekov is introduced in the second season.) We learn also a little about McCoy's past, and his relationship with Nancy Crater. She used to call him "Plum".

As salt was important to the episode several futuristic salt shakers were produced. But they looked so futuristic that it was feared nobody would recognise them as salt shakers, and they were redressed as McCoy's medical instruments.

Some fans don't like THE MAN TRAP as McCoy kills the salt vampire, although the creature is only trying to survive. It is not Star Trek's way, as the series shows us in THE DEVIL IN THE DARK. The Horta also kills people, but Kirk tries to communicate with her. Why doesn't he just give the salt vampire the salt it needs to survive? Nevertheless, it is an enjoyable episode that has many elements of good Star Trek.

\*\*\*\*\*

## STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION EPISODE REVIEWS

### THE ARSENAL OF FREEDOM

Episode No. 21 Prod No. 121. Teleplay by Richard Manning & Hans Beimler, Story by Maurice Hurley & Robert Lewin. Synopsis by Sheila Clark. US Satellite Uplink Date 9/4/88. BBC 2 screening 20/2/91.

The Drake has disappeared on the planet Minos; the Enterprise is sent to investigate. An away team consisting of Riker, Data and Yar beam down, ignoring the pre-recorded sales talk they get for advanced weapons. The Captain of the Drake turns up, but Riker is not convinced by him; and then he turns into an energy sphere which encases Riker in a force field before Yar destroys it. Shortly after, it reappears, having learned from its first encounter and upgraded its abilities.

Picard and Crusher beam down, but while escaping from the new sphere they fall into a deep hole; Picard is unhurt, but Crusher is quite seriously injured.

Meanwhile, the Enterprise is also attacked and La Forge, in command, is forced to retreat; however, he separates the saucer and returns.

The attacks are coming from a computer-generated system that has destroyed the civilisation on Minos. In desperation, Picard agrees to buy the weapons and the 'salesman' turns the demonstration off. The away team is beamed back to the Enterprise and the battle bridge heads back to rejoin the saucer.

Comment:

Sheila Clark: I wasn't too keen on this one the first time I saw it; I liked it better second time around. It certainly seems stupid, though, to manufacture a weapon that doesn't have an 'off' switch! Nothing was said about the system being quarantined; I would, however, hope that it would be.

Edward Woo: Arsenal of Freedom is an episode that I really enjoyed, mainly because of its action. I like the idea of the planet Minos being an arms merchant, with its computerised salesman.

I thought the whole idea of an away team is not to sacrifice the Captain and the First Officer at the same time. This policy somehow got lost in this story,

with La Forge left in command. Troi was right to object to Picard's going down to the planet.

I thought Dr. Crusher and Captain Picard worked well together, especially after they had fallen into the sink-hole. No doubt the story had greater potential with the Doctor being injured rather than the Captain.

I disliked Chief Engineer Logan - a bit too eager to assume command. Scotty was never like that. I can now see La Forge behind Data in the chain of command and definitely not ahead of the android, as other people have suggested.

I liked the idea of the weapons system improving after every encounter and every twelve minutes, giving the away team something to think about.

The question to ask is what will happen to the planet Minos now. Will it be permanently quarantined, or can they de-activate the sales pitch programming and demonstration?

The attack on the Enterprise D reminded me of the good old days of classic Enterprise under the command of Capt Kirk as the ship swayed under the pressure of phaser strikes.

Sharon Holmes: I loved this episode as we get to see the abilities of Geordi instead of "Course laid in sir".

As for Tasha! Well! She stands there staring at this floating object for ages without readying her phaser - well out of character for her. However she did become the good, well trained Security Chief in latter encounters.

In all, a good, action packed episode with an excellent insight into Geordi's character and more subtly the Picard-Crusher relationship.

Ann Peters: Does rank count for nothing in Starfleet these days? Why bother with all those pip combinations if the one who shouts the loudest gets to command anyway? The fight between Geordi and Logan in front of the bridge crew was quite disgraceful - no wonder Troi could feel that everyone was very insecure! Such goings on would never have happened on Kirk's Enterprise: can you imagine Sulu refusing to hand over to Scotty? Unthinkable!

The whole thing was Picard's fault of course. The planet was known to be dangerous before he beamed down and the Enterprise was hardly safe, since they were actually investigating the disappearance of a ship. So Picard allows all the senior officers on to a hazardous planet and leaves a couple of bickering lieutenants to look after the ship he's meant to think so much of. If Remmick really wanted to nobbie Picard for incompetence he should have waited a couple of weeks.

The sanity of Data flinging Yar into the bushes was questionable too. She could easily have broken her neck and, if the previous record of those hovering weapons was anything to go by, she was perfectly safe where she was. It's hard to see how the weapons managed to destroy a whole planet if they weren't even capable of learning to hit a target.

Somewhere in all of this was the makings of a good episode that really deserved better treatment. I liked the basic idea of arms manufacturers whose merchandise destroyed them and of having to buy the weapons to stop their attack, though I'm not sure why Picard didn't buy the one attacking the Enterprise as well. I also liked the 'price is right' salesman and the good ship lollypop. The scenes between Picard and Crusher were good, but they would have been better left for another episode, since the Captain should *definitely* not have beamed down in this one.

**HEART OF GLORY** Episode No. 20 Prod No. 120. Teleplay by Maurice Hurley, Story by Maurice Hurley & Herbert Wright & D C Fontana. Synopsis by Sheila Clark.  
US Satellite Uplink Date 19/3/88. BBC 2 screening 27/2/91.

The Enterprise finds a disabled Talarian freighter in the Neutral Zone; investigating it, an away team finds three survivors - Klingons who claim to have been passengers on the freighter - and get them back to the Enterprise before the disabled ship explodes. One of the three is too badly injured to survive.

Worf is interested in his fellow Klingons, who in turn confide in him. They are opposed to the treaty with the Federation, which they see as a weakening of the Klingon warrior culture. They are, in fact, rebels, and they try to persuade Worf to join them.

A Klingon ship arrives, claiming that the three are criminals and demanding the extradition of the two survivors. Worf pleads with the Captain of the ship to give the two a chance to die fighting, but although he sympathises, the Captain insists that the criminals be handed over for execution.

The two manage to escape, but one is killed. The other - Korris - threatens to destroy the Enterprise. Worf faces him down, telling him that the sign of a true warrior is not external show but what is inside the man. He then manages to kill Korris.

The Klingon Captain offers Worf a position on his ship; Worf thanks him, but assures Picard that he has no intention of leaving the Enterprise.

**Edward Woo:** Heart of Glory is the first real opportunity for Michael Dorn to express his abilities and to flesh out the character of Worf. I believe it is right that there would be Klingons who would oppose the peace treaty between Starfleet and the Empire and would try to exploit it as in this case.

What I liked about this episode is the insight into the Klingon mentality with the Klingon ritual death howl. Once dead they believe the body is just an empty shell and so the body can be disposed of in any way, which could well be true. Dr. Crusher could examine it to further her knowledge of Klingon physiology.

Klingons are definitely walking arsenals of weaponry with their uniforms comprising weapons components. I felt the Enterprise Security guards were too easily removed; the first guard should have stayed out of sight until the Klingons tried to leave the security cell, whereas he dived straight into the phaser fire. The second guard did a little better.

Engineering seemed all too vulnerable, with easy access to the dilithium crystal chamber for the Klingon Korris. Surely this would have been more difficult in Scotty's domain? It could be a sign of the times that the Federation is more open and peaceful and not fearful and security-minded as in the past.

I think Worf should consider a tour of duty with the Klingons to gain more experience and this could be examined in a future episode.

**Ann Peters:** It's hard to believe that Worf was an afterthought because he's given so much potential to TNG - far more than Riker, Geordi or Yar. Let's be honest, compared with aliens, Humans are pretty boring. Without the Vulcan connection, the original series could well have fallen pretty flat, yet Spock started out as little more than a token alien. Now we have Worf being a token Klingon and Guinan only coming in at the second season and they are two of TNG's best characters. When Star Trek: Generation III is being planned, I do hope someone remembers that Star Trek really does need its aliens.

The beginning of HOG is extremely silly; it's a shame they didn't make better use of a very impressive set. Are we really meant to believe that Picard would play around with that *visor* transmission device, which they've never bothered with

since, while the away team is on a ship that's about to explode? I don't think it stopped working; I think Geordi switched it off so the Captain would leave them alone. And then we have Data coming back to drag Riker and Geordi through heat and toxic gasses, which he's already advised them not to enter, just because a door is jammed - a door which he then proceeds to open all by himself anyway. Did they really have professional screenwriters producing this rubbish? No wonder they had to get the fan writers in!

Once they get back to the Enterprise, the story actually gets going - perhaps it should have been a 30 minute episode. Through Worf we start to see a little of what makes Klingons tick, which was not possible when they were Federation enemy number one. I don't think they have substantially changed since the original series, apart from their makeup budget, it's just that our perspective on them has changed now they are allies. The violent nature of Klingons certainly made for some very imaginative touches in HOG, the piece de resistance being that glorious death howl. It really is hard to believe it was only an afterthought to put a Klingon on the bridge.

\*\*\*\*\*

## BOOK & VIDEO REVIEWS

Q IN LAW by Peter David Pocket and Titan £3.50 (TNG 18) Reviewed by Sheila Clark.

The Tizarin are a race that might be called space gypsies; they live all their lives in space and don't appear to have a home planet.

A marriage that will join two powerful rival families is to be held on board the Enterprise. Among the Federation delegates attending is Lwaxana Troi... in mourning for her daughter. This is an ancient, now pointless, tradition - to mourn the unmarried state of a daughter.

The party is also joined by an uninvited guest; Q. And from that point things begin to go wrong.

This is an unusual novel in that nothing earth-shattering - sorry, should that be space-shattering or even universe-shattering? - happens. The story is quite simply, will Q manage to disrupt everything permanently (thus creating a blood feud between the two families) or will he be defeated? A complication arises when Lwaxana falls in love with Q and it seems that he loves her.

The story reads well and smoothly and there is none of the 'conservation theme of the month' flavour that has so irritated some of our book reviewers in the past. It's surprising that a book in which so little actually happens should read so well! And I give Worf top marks for his comment on page 239.

THE RIFT by Peter David Pocket (57) & Titan (52) £3.50 Reviewed by Sheila Clark

Peter David has certainly been busy! Two books in two months!

The blurb for this one says that every fifty years a rift in space connects the Federation with a race called the Calligar who live hundreds of light years away - too far for a spaceship to travel inside the lifetime of the crew. The rift remains open for some 72 hours but this period can be shortened if the fabric of space is disturbed by anything going through the rift at warp speeds. This seems to be a case of something being missed somewhere during a rewrite, for throughout the book, the period is given as 33.4 years - a more realistic period considering certain aspects of the story.

The rift is initially discovered by Captain Pike; he makes contact with the Calligar, who are technological wizards but isolationists - they don't want to travel away from their home world. Jose Tyler, Pike's navigator, falls in love

with one of the Calligar women, Ecma, and it seems that she might love him; but when the Enterprise leaves – in something of a hurry because the rift is closing – his last sight of her is in the company of her brother Macro who, it seems to Tyler, is in the throes of an incestuous love of her which she is not trying to discourage.

When the rift is due to re-open, Tyler, now a Commodore, joins the Enterprise, which has been assigned to make further contact. The Federation has made every effort to ensure that warp disturbance of the rift be as minimal as possible; Spock, Scott, Daystrom (still living on a knife-edge of emotional balance), Thak (an Andorian) and Dorkin (a Tellerite) go through the rift in a shuttlecraft to contact the people of Calligar, while another vessel brings a Calligarian representative through to the Enterprise. This turns out to be Ecma... who promptly asks for political asylum. The other Calligarians claim that she is being coerced because of Tyler, and refuse to let the Federation contingent return until Ecma is released.

Mr. David has produced an interesting race with the Calligarians, a race with some interesting customs. The story moves quite well, although I didn't find it so enthralling that I couldn't put it down. The 'feud' between Thak and Dorkin is nicely handled and there are some nice moments of humour.

I could have wished for the segment with Pike to have been a little shorter and the segment with Kirk a little longer, but part of that is personal prejudice; I've never been able to warm very much to Pike, and apart from Spock we don't really know his crew. In addition, that segment – 81 pages out of 274 – is really just setting the stage for the Kirk segment. However, I suspect that some people will like that segment *because* it's getting away from Kirk and his crew; really very little has been written, in either the professional novels or in fan fiction, about Pike's crew.

Apart from that, I've no real criticisms to make; but neither do I have excited recommendations to make. Mr. David is a competent writer with some original ideas; unfortunately while I do enjoy his work, he doesn't always totally spark my imagination. 7 out of 10.

PRIME DIRECTIVE by Judith and Garfield Reeves-Stevens. Pan £4.99.  
Reviewed by Sue Embury.

At last all that flouting of the Prime Directive seems to have finally caught up with Kirk, and not only with Kirk. This time the entire bridge crew, Kirk, Spock, Sulu, Chekov, and Uhura, the infamous Enterprise Five, have been disgraced in a disastrous mission which ended with the planet Talin being laid waste by a nuclear Armageddon.

As the story opens Kirk is hiding his notoriety behind a pseudonym and a beard, trying to work a passage back to the ill-fated planet in hopes of uncovering the truth about the disaster.

Likewise, Chekov and Sulu join the crew of a rather endearing Orion Pirate in an effort to make their way back to Talin, while McCoy and Uhura team up with the same aim.

Back on Earth, Spock uses the advantages of his Vulcan citizenship to gain an audience with the Federation Council, joining forces with student dissidents whose aim is for the Prime Directive to be struck from Federation law.

Scott, spared the disgrace because he was not on the bridge at the moment of disaster, is occupied salvaging the wrecked Enterprise, which has been put under the command of one Lieutenant Styles, future commander of the Excelsior, and not one of Mister Scott's favourite people.

The actual events of the Talin mission are recounted in a kind of substantial



flashback, which joins up to current action in the middle of the novel. The introductory section of the book is entitled "Aftermath", and presents us with the scenario described above. This structure works well, and my attention was riveted right through. Unfortunately I have to say that the resolution was a little bit of a let down. I found the new alien race unconvincing and consequently the story seemed to fizzle out rather than coming to a satisfying conclusion. Still a very good read however; - 8 out of 10

THE NEXT GENERATION TECHNICAL MANUAL by Rick Sternbach & Michael Okuda  
Boxtree Press £11.99 Pocket Books £9.99. Reviewed by Sheila Clark

I haven't had time to give this more than a scan but I was very impressed. This book will obviously be of considerable interest to the technically-minded people in fandom.

There have been a number of so-called technical manuals put out in the past 25 years, but these have all consisted of fan speculation; this is the first official one - the authors are 'back room boys' on the show and what they describe really is the technology used in TNG.

They go into detail about every aspect of the show's 'technobabble' (to quote Rick Berman), their text backed by excellent illustrations. This includes some things that I don't remember cropping up in any episode - yet. I think my favourite is the bit about the guidance and navigation section of Galaxy class starships; ongoing systems research is handled by a team of twelve dolphins gaffered\* by a pair of whales!

\* gaffer - Scots for foreman or overseer

THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF STAR TREK by John Peel, edited by Hal Schuster, Schuster & Schuster 1988 £14.95. Reviewed by Sheila Clark

This 300 page volume is in two parts, characters and people (and promises, in a future edition, to include a third part, planets). We have an alphabetically arranged list of named characters and races that appeared in Original Star Trek (animations and movies as well as series) and an alphabetically arranged list of the actors. Both sections include some information on these.

The only main difference between this and Bjo Trimble's Concordance is that the Concordance also gives information on things (eg phasers) that appeared in Trek. In the absence of the Concordance it's adequate, but I personally feel that the Concordance is the better and more informative publication.

THE MAKING OF THE TREK FILMS by Edward Gross, Kay Anderson, Wendy Rathbone, Ron Magid & Sheldon Teitelbaum Image Publishing 1991 £10.95  
Reviewed by Sheila Clark

This book skims fairly quickly over ST:TMP on the grounds that a book already exists about the making of it, and goes on to deal with the other films at greater length. It goes into the background behind the films, the scripting of them, production problems, etc, ending with a short bit about the Starfleet Academy idea for ST VI and an interview with Gene Roddenberry. I haven't had time to do more than scan it but it seems to be much on a par with the other books Gross has put out, with a lot that's interesting but also including details of some unpleasantness between the people involved. This has been my main complaint about Gross's books; I've no doubt that there were times when there were differences of opinion and tempers on the set were frayed, but I'd just as soon not be told about them.

If you're interested in what goes on behind the scenes before and during filming,

this book will probably interest you.

THE USS ENTERPRISE OFFICERS MANUAL Starfleet Publications Office, £10.95 from Sheffield Space Centre. A revised version of this is now available. Reviewed by Edward Woo.

This review is of the original Manual and is just another ST Book collectable, if you want it! It comprises technology, uniforms, insignias etc of the TV series and ST-TMP. It lists the Starfleet General Orders, a brief history of the Botany Bay and the Talos IV story which I found interesting. The Klingonese character set is useful for making up words.

Basically the rest of the manual has diagrams or drawings of Federation, Klingon and Romulan personal and technical equipment.

The last page has a proposed revision of the Enterprise which is stamped obsolete. However it has many of the sleek lines the new Galaxy Class Enterprise has now incorporated.

I think it's best to flick through it before buying this manual as many things are duplicated in other ST merchandise. It may be a bit expensive for what is obtained in it - all diagrams are in black and white.

VIDEO REVIEWS No. 69/70 by Gloria Fry

THAT WHICH SURVIVES by John Meredyth Lucas

Kirk, McCoy, Sulu and geologist D'Amato are stranded on a planet while the Enterprise is hurled light years away by an unknown force. D'Amato dies, Sulu is injured by a beautiful woman whose powers they cannot understand.

Meanwhile the woman appears on the ship, killing crewmen. Spock in command, irritating in the extreme with his meticulous precision in all things heads the ship back assisted by the highly excitable Mr Scott, who saves the ship with his skill and a bit of luck while arguing with Spock all the way. They return just in time to save the landing party from death and discover that the woman (Losira) who attacked them is a holographic image of a dead base commander, programmed by the computer to repel any invaders.

Lee Meriwether as Losira gives a sympathetic performance as her compassion wars with her programming to destroy the men. Her character is an interesting earlier version of the holodeck images in TNG. An excellent actress (see her also in 'Time Tunnel' where she puts so much into a small part as she struggles with time locks and shifting patterns and losing Doug and Tony every week) with expressive eyes and gestures. Also good was the helmswoman Lt. T'Pol, competent, efficient and businesslike, even though Spock told her off for not being precise enough in her calculations; he is wonderfully double-Vulcan as he obviously frets about the landing party, exasperating everyone (particularly Scotty). Sulu shows his chivalrous nature with the line 'Get back, I don't want to kill a woman...' but gets attacked all the same. D'Amato did not last long, but the actor made him a nice, likeable character and it was sad to see him killed. An interesting, sad little tale ..

LET THAT BE YOUR LAST BATTLEFIELD by Oliver Crawford.

The Enterprise intercepts a stolen shuttle and brings the thief aboard. Lokai, a strange Humanoid who is half-black/half-white, claims asylum aboard the ship. They are followed by another craft which brings yet another being aboard. He is Bele, who is half-white/half-black and claims to be pursuing Lokai who he insists is a criminal wanted on their home planet Cheron. As there is no treaty with Cheron Kirk will not allow Bele to remove Lokai and will take them to a

starbase after they have completed their mission, but Bele takes over the ship and only releases her after Kirk implements the self-destruct sequence. Bele concedes and allows the ship to complete her mission. Kirk and Spock cannot understand the prejudice that exists between the two aliens and Spock attempts to make Bele understand that they must once have been mono-coloured, one race, but Bele scoffs at that observation. He once again takes control of the ship and sends them to Cheron, where he and Lokai find that the race-hatred on their world finally destroyed it and no-one is left alive. They both beam down to continue their futile struggle.

This episode deals with bigotry, unsuitedly perhaps, but the message is still only too valid today, as it was in the 60's during the race-riots and segregation in the States. The message that racism is futile, unnecessary and inhuman can never be reinforced enough and it is a comforting thought that in the ST future it is dead and buried (more or less apart from the odd instance Spock comes up against in 'Balance of Terror'). Perhaps that is one reason for the popularity of the series; the universal brotherhood that is portrayed so convincingly.

Bele's description of the crew being mono-coloured trash is an interesting line, showing that his prejudice is not confined to Lokai's people. An interesting episode, despite certain shortcomings. The tense self-destruct sequence is highly effective, hence - no doubt - its re-use in STIII: The Search for Spock.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ZINE REVIEWS

**ACADEMY DAYS** by Jackie Stone. Available from Jackie Taylor, "Regele", London Road, Milton Common, Oxford OX9 2NU. Approx. 55,000 words in 98 pages. £4.50.  
Reviewed by Sue Embury.

This is a collection of three stories covering Spock's years at Starfleet Academy, and they are entitled, logically enough, "First Year", "Second Year" and "Final Year". The first two have previously been published in Alnitah zines, in 1980 and 82 respectively, so established zine collectors may have seen them before. Indeed, I had read "First Year" in a second-hand Alnitah, but it is the shortest of the three tales and I was still happy to buy the collection. Each story can stand alone, but they hang together so well that I will treat them as a unified whole.

There is nothing of the dreaded "Police Academy" style about this sensitive, gently humorous tour through Spock's Academy training. Jackie Stone's cameos of academy life; the lectures and lecturers, Spock's fellow cadets and their alternating devotion to social life and end-of-year exams, all rang true and built a very credible sense of atmosphere, which reminded me nostalgically of my university days. Spock's initial sense of overwhelming disorientation as he struggles to find his feet in the thoroughly novel environment of Starfleet Academy, will be instantly recognisable to anyone who has ever started at a new school, college, or job, although in Spock's case it is poignantly magnified by his genuinely alien nature and cultural background. Though his academic talents and physical fitness ensure that he sails through Starfleet's training requirements, interactions with his companions, both human and Vulcan, present him with more of a challenge. The trilogy traces Spock's development from a self-conscious social misfit to an outwardly assured, and even somewhat humanised, Starfleet Lieutenant.

There are several brief, though effective, character portrayals. Of course, there are no familiar faces from the Enterprise here, though perhaps there are a few shades of things to come. Jackie Stone's admirable prose style shifts easily from one character's viewpoint to another, sometimes utilising flashback, yet without losing continuity. In fact, I found this zine hard to put down, and finished it in an evening. I would strongly recommend it to any Spock fan; thoroughly enjoyable.

IN PERSPECTIVE by Kay Stagg. Reviewed by Waltraud Zucha-Glass

The author gives the following synopsis: "Kirk's problems of the present and haunting memories of the past weigh heavily on him until something happens to Spock and then at last he can put everything into perspective." I'm not going to give away anything else about the contents - you'll have to read the zine for yourself!

Let me just say that I enjoyed the novel immensely. As a Shatner-fan Kay Stagg obviously has taken his words about the series to her heart: "Professionals doing their job take it as professionals will: as workaday" (I'm quoting from the "Interview Book", page 16). This makes for very pleasant reading, for she captures the "feeling" of the original series very vividly. It just sounds "right" - no sentimentalism, but a very honest and open dealing with the characters we all know so well. In this novel she concentrates on telling a story about Kirk and The Friendship, and it's by far the most realistic interpretation of the famous mind-link I've encountered so far. "So we leave it as it is", says Kirk and, as in the episodes, there are worlds of meaning packed into one brief sentence.

Besides, Kay Stagg ties the knots of her plot nicely; the novel has a very balanced structure and as usual her style is flawlessly Star Trek - clear, refreshingly impetuous at times, humorous, and always honest. She catches the often wordless communication between Kirk and Spock, the comments by McCoy, the unspoken loyalty among the bridge crew.

An exciting, well-told story, true to the spirit of the classic episodes - and this is about the highest praise I know!

In Perspective is available from Kay Stagg, 33 Barrack Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6RU. £4.80 (Europe air mail £6.00)

GATEWAY Published by Kalomi Press in 1981. Reviewed by Martin Stahl.

Gateway is a Star Trek fanzine containing short stories, poems and artwork by various writers and artists. It is a zine of the macabre, and therefore in most stories either Kirk or Spock dies a rather unusual death. A typical example is 'The Prey' by Ginna LaCroix where Kirk is killed by a space creature and Spock cannot help him and goes insane.

'To Rule in Hell' by Cheryl Rich is about Khan and Lt. McGivers in their exile on Ceti Alpha V and now would be considered to be an alternate universe story, but it was written before the premiere of ST II.

My favourite (and perhaps the most macabre) in this zine is 'The Survivor', a poem written by Cathy Arsis. Kirk and Spock crashed down with the shuttlecraft, and when several days later a landing party discovers them they only find Kirk and take him to sickbay. He tells in his shock that Spock saved his life. "... but I hate him!" McCoy wonders why he hated him and suddenly realizes... but I don't want to tell you the end of the poem. You have to read it yourself.

These are only three examples of the many stories and poems. I enjoyed the zine very much and I can recommend it to everyone who likes macabre stories. I like especially the cover as it looks as if it is three dimensional (at least I get this impression every time I see it).

Gateway was printed in 1981, and I don't know if it is still available. It was published by Kalomi Press, c/o Martha Bonds, 5905 Yorkwood Road, Baltimore, MD 21239, U.S.A.

\*\*\*\*\*

## NEW ZINES

Check Zine Ads for ordering details.

Scotpress

ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 86 - Kirk is hurt in an accident; a shuttle carrying Kirk, Spock, an Ambassador and his family crash lands - and the Klingons are around; Kirk joins the Enterprise; Spock is threatened with promotion; and several seasonal stories and poems. Due December/January £4.00.

LONESTAR TREK No. 4 "The Tie That Binds" - novella by Lynn Syck and Mary Rottler, art by Kay Wells. McCoy is believed dead and Spock is near death. It is all Kirk can do to keep going. "The Abduction" - story by Laurie D. Haynes, art by Brett Barham. Romulans kidnap Kirk and Spock and stick them on a prison planetoid. "The Vice-Versa Dilemma" - novella by Lorraine Anderson. Uh-oh, it's a turnabout again for Kirk. To top it off, he's got Romulan troubles. "To Soar No More" - story by Laurie D. Haynes, art by Brett Barham. Riker has disappeared during a planetary survey, but the Enterprise has been called away on an emergency mission. "Come Away Home" - story by Jan Meek. Lt. Nicci Fynn joins the crew of the Aerie, but can this new ship ever live up to Nicci's last assignment on the U.S.S. Enterprise? Special 25th anniversary colour cover by Kay Wells. Approximately 200 pages. \$19 US, \$20 Can, \$26 Europe, \$28 Pacific. Available November 1991 from Lone Star Trek, c/o Laurie Haynes/Janet Meek, P.O. Box 189, DeRidder, LA 70634, U.S.A.

Bill Hupe - check zine ads for postage.

BACK TO SQUARE ONE - a novel taking place between seasons 1 & 2 of TNG. Alicia Kuroki is revived from suspended animation and assigned as doctor to the Enterprise \$11.00 + postage

BEVERLY FILES, Nos 1, 2 & 3 - produced in conjunction with the Beverlyfiles. Each issue contains plenty of Crusher-oriented fiction as well as reviews of Gates McFadden's various performances. No. 1 - \$12.00, No. 2, \$15.50, No. 3 (new), \$13.50 + postage

FREE FALL 1 - short stories about the original crew. McCoy's divorce; a hectic day for McCoy; McCoy is kidnapped; two female inspectors come on board to oversee repairs. \$8.00 + postage

LEGACY OF KIRK - ST/TNG In ST II Kirk finally faces death head on. Nearly a century later, Picard still believes death to be man's last adventure. \$6.00 + postage

PIRATES OF AVALON - Picard is on a mission to establish a trade agreement with Avalon before the Rihannsu negotiate an agreement; complicating this are pirates who have been using Avalon as a base. \$6.50 + postage

CANDLELIGHT AND FLAMES - K/S - AGE STATEMENT REQUIRED, also a statement that you understand the premise. Both established and new writers. 153 pages. \$13.00 + postage

\*\*\*\*\*

Solution to Star Trek puzzle:

1.Guinan, 2.Excelsior, 3.Song, 4.Tiberius, 5.Corbomite, 6.Galileo, 7.Muldaur, 8.Deltan, 9.Earl Grey, 10.Khan, 11.Humpback, 12.Skin of Evil, 13.Tribbles, 14.Taylor, 15.Sybok. The answer is Gene Roddenberry.

Solution to Crossword

Across 1) Red, 3) McCoy, 8) Khan, 9) Enterprise, 12) Contract, 13) Maru, 16) Reliant, 17) Naval, 18) Science, 19) Nona.

Down 2) Dead, 3) M 5, 4) Construction, 5) Empath, 6) Grissom, 7) Trelane, 10) Kobayashi, 11) Space, 14) Rayna, 15) Seven, 16) Rand.

Solution to TNG Word Workout:

1 J, 2 F, 3 W, 4 L, 5 S, 6 G, 7 Q, 8 A, 9 X, 10 E, 11 R, 12 C, 13 M, 14 P, 15 O, 16 Y, 17 D, 18 N, 19 I, 20 B, 21 V, 22 Z, 23 H, 24 K, 25 U, 26 T.

## ZINE ADS

You can send your Zine Ads to either Janet or Sheila. While we will try and print them in full we reserve the right to edit for length if necessary. We will print these ads in two consecutive newsletters only unless we receive an update.

### IDIC/Scotpress

IDIC LOG 7 - short stories by various writers. U.K. £4.00.

IDIC LOG 6, 5 - short stories by various writers. Each U.K. £3.90.

IDIC LOG 4 - short stories by various writers. U.K. £3.80.

IDIC LOG 3, 1 - short stories by various writers. Each U.K. £3.60.

IDIC LOG 2 - ECHOES OF THE PAST by Christopher Ng. When the Excelsior disappears, the Enterprise is sent to look for her. U.K. £3.90.

ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 86 - a shuttle carrying Kirk, Spock, an Ambassador and his family crash lands - and the Klingons are around; Spock is threatened with promotion; several seasonal stories and poems; and others.

Due December/January U.K.£4.00

ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 85 - short stories by various writers. U.K. £3.90.

ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 84 - short stories by various writers. U.K. £3.80.

ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 83 - short stories by various writers. U.K. £3.70.

MAKE IT SO 6 - short stories about the TNG characters. U.K. £4.00.

MAKE IT SO 5 - short stories about the TNG characters. U.K. £3.90.

Nos 1 - 4 out of print. Accepting submissions for issue 7 on.

CAPRICCIO ITALIEN by Sue Jones. The Enterprise picks up a Priority 1 call from Leonardo's Planet, but when the ship arrives there, everyone denies having sent it. Things however are not as peaceful as they seem. U.K. £3.90.

CITY WITHOUT WALLS by Alinda Alain. A sequel to One Among You. Although he has already been defeated, Mitchell's jealousy of Kirk and Spock forces him to keep on trying to destroy them. U.K. £2.95.

A GIFT BEYOND PRICE by Gloria Fry - Kirk has just taken command of the Enterprise. U.K. £3.05.

KINDRED SPIRIT by Gloria Fry - sequel to Gift. Mitchell cannot control his jealousy of Kirk and Spock. U.K. £3.25.

RETURN TO THE SOURCE by Nicole Comtet. Spock must get some top secret information to Vulcan. U.K. £3.25.

LOVELY - A LITTLE PROBLEM by Brenda Kelsey - The ship is in quarantine after the tribble episode and to occupy the time is carrying a group of diplomats to their destination. U.K. £3.90.

ORCADIA by Joyce Devlin. A sequel to From Starship to Lancaster. Wiseman, defeated in that story and sent to rehabilitation, escapes again and returns to Earth in 1939 to make sure that Hitler will win World War II. U.K. £3.15.

ESSAYS OF AQUARIUS by Marion Van der Voort. The adventures of Captain Bill Sava, First Officer Radin and Dr. Teddy Bhaer of the Aquarius. THIS IS NOT STAR TREK but there are many resemblances. On embarkation leave, Bill and Radin get to know each other; and we learn something about the Empire in which this series is set. U.K. £5.00.

Still available a number of other titles. Order from Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee DD3 0PH. Please make cheques/POs payable to Scotpress. Visa/Access/Mastercard accepted.

Foreign prices: Europe, add £1 per zine; Australia/Japan write to Sheila for prices, enclosing an SAE + IRC.

We have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell IDIC & Scotpress zines in America and Canada; send to him for prices, enclosing a SAE.

We are soliciting submissions for IDIC and Scotpress zines - stories, poems, artwork - of both original Trek and TNG material, either short stories for IDIC LOG, ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES or MAKE IT SO, or long ones suitable for printing on their own. No stories about death of main characters (except Yar!) or explicit sex; stories should include at least one character who has appeared in aired Trek. These are, after all, the voyages of the Starship Enterprise... (in either incarnation). Send submissions of TNG material to Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee, Scotland, and Classic Trek material to Valerie

Piacentini, 20 Ardrossan Rd, Saltcoats, Ayrshire, Scotland.

# **BILL HUPE & PEG KENNEDY**

For postage, add up the weight of the zines you want then check the postage table.

Weight	Air	Surface
Up to 2 lbs	\$16.35	\$8.60
Up to 3 lbs	\$22.40	\$11.40
Up to 4 lbs	\$27.40	\$13.90
Up to 5 lbs	\$33.75	\$17.25

For higher weights, add \$4.50/lb air, \$2.25 surface.

**BACK TO SQUARE ONE** - a novel taking place between seasons 1 & 2 of TNG. Alicia Kuroki is revived from suspended animation and assigned as doctor to the Enterprise \$11.00 + postage

**BEVERLY FILES**, Nos 1, 2 & 3 - produced in conjunction with the Beverlyphiles. Each issue contains plenty of Crusher-oriented fiction as well as reviews of Gates McFadden's various performances. No. 1 - \$12.00, No. 2, \$15.50, No. 3 (new), \$13.50 + postage

**FREE FALL 1** - short stories about the original crew. McCoy's divorce; a hectic day for McCoy; McCoy is kidnapped; two female inspectors come on board to oversee repairs. \$8.00 + postage

**LEGACY OF KIRK** - ST/TNG In ST II Kirk finally faces death head on. Nearly a century later, Picard still believes death to be man's last adventure. \$6.00 + postage

**PIRATES OF AVALON** - Picard is on a mission to establish a trade agreement with Avalon before the Rihannsu negotiate an agreement; complicating this are pirates who have been using Avalon as a base. \$6.50 + postage

**CANDLELIGHT AND FLAMES** - K/S - AGE STATEMENT REQUIRED, also a statement that you understand the premise. Both established and new writers. 153 pages. \$13.00 + postage

Many other titles available. We can now accept personal cheques from the U.K.

Please add 1.5% for bank charges. Bill Hupe & Peg Kennedy, Suite 50, 920

Trowbridge Rd No. 2, East Lansing, MI 48823, USA. Janet Ellicott (see below) is acting as Bill's agent in Britain - SAE her for British prices. America - Bill's address is now Footrot Flats, 916 Lamb Rd, Mason, MI 48854-9554.

**WHO WAS THAT MASKED MAN?** Biographical info and credits listings. No. 1 - STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION. £1 within Europe, £2 elsewhere. No. 2 - ORIGINAL TREK £2 within Europe, £3 elsewhere. Many other zines also available, including some from Bill Hupe and from Australia. Send large SAE for list. Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Hackney, London E9 6RN, England.

## **ZINES by Kay Stag**

Genzines - Kirk/Spock orientated hurt/comfort. Please make cheques or postal orders payable to Kay Stag and send orders to 33 Barrack Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6RU. Postage and packing included in the price (second class).

**SECOND CHANGE/A COLD BY ANY OTHER NAME** (Previously appeared in Stargate and Stargate II) 75 pages £3. **TROUBLES REVISITED/THE RIFT/JUSTICE SHOULD BE SEEN TO BE DONE** (previously appeared in Stargate III and Enterprise Log Entries 61 (SciTPress)) 95 pages, £3.60/ **FREEDOM** - full length story 167 pages £4.80. **TOO MANY AVENUES** - full length story £4.80. **IN PERSPECTIVE** - full length story 177 pages £4.80. For other items, ie pens, pencils, notebooks, bookmarks, etc, please send SAE for information.

## **Merry Men Press**

**FIRST TIME** zines contain K/S stories, art and poetry. Age statement required.

**FIRST TIME** is always on time. All inquiries and orders are promptly filled, no-one's left to hang on the line. SAE (addressed envelope and 2 IRCs) for more info. **FIRST TIME** 1 - 30 available; No. 31 due for Christmas.

New - **GAMBIT**, a Mirror/'our' universe K/S novel by Kay Wells. **WITHIN THE MIRROR** - an all mirror-related K/S zine. Full of first time stories, and on time. Within the Mirror I is nominated for several awards. Within the Mirror II - V are also currently in print. **BESIDE MYSELF** 1 & 2 - well-illustrated K/S zines exclusively written by Robin Hood and her assorted pen names. **FETISH** - a K/S novel by Jenny

Starr. Winner of 1988 Best Novel. **PORTRAITS** - A K/S novel by Charlotte Frost. **SCATTERED STARS 1, 2 & 3** - an alternate universe K/S fanzine. Some non-Trek zines also available. Prices for all zines are \$20.00 US, \$22.00 Canada, \$26.00 foreign. US currency only please. Merry Men Press, 274 Roanoke Rd, El Cajon, CA 92020, USA.

#### ENTERPRISE ORIGINALS Publications

**MANY A SLIP**: a collection of short stories and poems of a humorous nature by various writers, edited by Sue James. Order from Jacqueline Comben, Post Cottage, Rhossili, Gower, Swansea, SA3 1PL, South Wales. Price; £1.25 for EOs members, £1.75 for others. Add 35p for Postage and packing. Cheques in sterling only to Enterprise Originals.

#### BSFR

**STAR VOYAGES 1** BSFR Short Story Zine. Issue 1 contains five short stories set in the universe of 'Classic' Trek. The writers are: Glyn & Lynda Probert, Oriel Cooper, Rod Summers, John A. Mariani & Steve Farthing. Price £3.50 for BSFR members, £4.00 for non members. Please add 60p p&p for Britain.  
**AFTERGLOW** a novel by Jacqueline Comben, sequel to **GREEN FIRE**. Price £3.45 for BSFR members, £3.95 for non members. Please add 60p p&p for Britain.  
 Other titles still available. Dave Uppington, BSFR Zines, 10 Wedgwood Close, Fortfield Green, Whitchurch, Bristol BS14 9YE.

Kathleen Resch

K/S zines - age statement required

**T'HY'LA 10** - new. No. 11 due soon. **T'HY'LA 1, 3-5, 7-9** (short stories) \$24.00 each, air, \$20.00 each surface; No. 2, novel 'The Things I Cannot Change' \$24.00 air, \$20.00 surface; No. 6, \$18.00 air, \$15.00 surface. No. 12 is open for submissions. **BEFORE THE GLORY** (short stories) \$24.00 air; **DAY OF VENGEANCE**, novel by Jean Lightfoot and C. Del Rio, \$19.00 air; **THE PRICE OF FREEDOM** - novel by Jean Lightfoot. Spock has disappeared; Kirk risks both life and career to find him - but when he does, he finds a drug-addicted stranger... \$26.00 air, \$20.00 surface.  
 Zines from other fandoms also available. Kathleen Resch, PO Box 1766, Temple City, CA 91780, USA. [Ed: Send an SAE for info on possible increase of prices due to U.S. postal rise.]

#### THE SMALL PRINTERS

New - **CLOSER THAN A BROTHER** by Meg Wright. (Reprint) £6.75 inclusive of p&p.  
**HOOPS OF STEEL** by Meg Wright. (Reprint) £4.25 inclusive of p&p.  
 Star Trek and Professionals zines, new and reprinted. SAE for prices and availability to L. R. Muir, 1 Moor Park Avenue, Leeds LS6 4BT.

#### HIATUS PRESS

**A LEGEND BEGINS** by Barbara Alleyn. A biography of the early life of James T. Kirk. 200+ pages. Printed on A5 with card covers and spiral bound. Price £5.30 inc postage. US price \$14.00 inc postage. Cheques should be made payable to Barbara E. Ellams. Hiatus Press, Flat 2, 32 St Mary's Road, London SE15 2DW

**LONESTAR TREK No. 4** Original Trek and TNG. Original Trek novellas by Lynn Syck & Mary Rottler, and Lorraine Anderson; stories by Laurie D. Haynes and Jan Meek; art by Kay Wells and Brett Barham. Special 25th anniversary colour cover by Kay Wells. Approximately 200 pages. \$19 US, \$20 Can, \$26 Europe, \$28 Pacific. Still available - No. 1 \$20 OS Airmail, No.2 \$25 OS Airmail, No.3 (available March 1991), classic Trek and TNG stories. Available November 1991 from Lone Star Trek, c/o Laurie Haynes/Janet Meek, P.O. Box 189, DeRidder, LA 70634, U.S.A.

**THE BETTER MAN** by Sue Embury. Based on the Classic Trek episode "Turnabout Intruder", in this alternative version the persona of Jim Kirk is trapped in the body of a woman, and Spock is the only one who believes him. Diagnosed as a psychotic woman Jim is committed to the psychiatric hospital on Benesia, while the Enterprise is under the command of a psychopath with the outward appearance of Captain Kirk. The story explores how Kirk copes with his dispossession, and how Spock and the Enterprise crew respond to the situation.  
 Due November. Not yet priced. SAE for further details from; Sue Embury, Lower



Bailea, Tregare, Nr. Monmouth, Gwent NP5 4JL.

Hailing all writers of *original* Star Trek stories and poems, both Gen and K/S!! and artists!! "OUTPOST" will be publishing both Gen (The Preserver's Chronicles) and K/S (The Preservers Secret Chronicles) zines in the near future and is looking for submissions. We are willing to consider *all* subjects, as long as they deal with Kirk, Spock, McCoy and the crew of the Enterprise (including all the films!). All contributors will, of course, receive a complimentary copy of the zine in which their material is printed. Please send to: "OUTPOST", Bettina Rackel and Karen Hayden, Am Tannenbusch 31, 4192 Kalkar, West Germany.

Carole Weatherall - a letter of apology

To all at IDIC who were kind enough to advertise the Duet zine I wish to extend my apologies for any problems caused by our constant delays.

To all the readers and all those who have contributed one way or another or have sent money and orders; I wish to apologise for the long delays and disappointments at not receiving the advertised zine Gemini.

It was with regret and sadness that, as of the end of August, I decided to leave Duet and the partnership with Janice MacDonald. Those of you who sent money or cheques I always acknowledged and then sent to Janice with a covering letter on the assumption she would also acknowledge same; I personally had nothing to do with the financial side of Duet, only dealing with stories and typing the material.

Janice had suffered many problems with the copier almost from the start, not to mention having family problems. I believe that once she knew there would be a long delay, since the copier was going to cost a lot to put right, she should have cancelled the ad. Once I knew that many people had sent cheques and subsequent enquiries for information, but didn't get replies, I wrote to her telling her this situation could not go on, and that I no longer could go on with the partnership.

In conclusion, I can only apologise once again to you all, knowing how disappointed you must be. Doreen DaBinett built up a good following - it is my regret we have not been able to follow in her footsteps. I wish Janice luck for the future.

In hopes of your understanding and good will, peace in IDIC.

*[Sheila - I also got a letter from Janice. This was a personal letter, so I can't quote it here, but in it she explained that she had had family problems as well as problems financing the repair of the copier; she has now made arrangements for the zine to be printed elsewhere and hopes to get it very soon; orders will be filled as soon as possible thereafter. She has also written everyone who sent her an SAE to enquire about what was happening.]*

\*\*\*\*\*

## CONVENTIONS / ADVERTS / CLUBS / GROUPS

### CONVENTIONS / GET-TOGETHERS

**HOLODECK NEW YEAR'S EVE** 31st December 1991, Angel Hotel, Northampton. Latest videos in the afternoon, a full buffet in the evening with party games and entertainment from Ronnie Carroll's Joker disco. Ticket price of £35 includes all the above plus your hotel room for the night of the 31st and full English breakfast. Tickets payable by instalments. Extra night's b&b £18. **HOLODECK NEW YEAR'S EVE**, P.O. Box 29, Hitchin, Herts SG4 9TG.

**CHARITY STAR TREK VIDEO WEEKENDER** presented by Leeds Starfleet. 24th-26th Jan, 1992 Hilton International Hotel, Leeds. Over 48 hours of continuous Classic Trek and

TNG in separate programmes. TNG will contain all the latest episodes including 5th season. All proceeds to go to charity - St. Gemma's Hospice, Leeds. Tickets available in advance or on the door. For more details, including admission prices, please write to (including SAE): Mike Mullen, 25 Claremont Road, Headingley, Leeds LS6 4EB. Tel: (0532) 742977.

**WE THREE ARE KLINGONS!** 6-8 March 1992, Angel Hotel, Northampton. A Klingon weekend. Following on from We Are Klingons! and We Are Klingons, Too!, a change of venue brings the representatives of the glorious Empire to Northampton. Qapla'! Guest: John Carrigan, stunt person, actor and all round nice guy, who will be presenting a stunt display as he did at the first WE ARE KLINGONS! Registration £12, room rates £22 per person per night (all types of room), including VAT and Full English breakfast. Tara Dyson, Dept. of Chemistry, University College, 20 Gordon Street, London WC1H 0AJ.

**SOL III '92.** The 33rd British Star Trek Convention 1st - 4th May, 1992. Venue: The Grand Hotel, Birmingham. Full Registration: £25.00. (Further details on request). Room rates: £25.00 per person per night, inclusive of VAT and full English breakfast, and irrespective of type of room. Guest speakers (to be announced); theme parties; disco; fancy dress; auctions; competitions; video programmes beginning at noon on Friday. Our charity is the Royal National Institute for the Deaf. For further information and an application form, please write to SOL III '92, c/o Heather Hillsden, 148 Reede Road, Dagenham, Essex RM10 8DX, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

**CONTAGION** The Scottish Star Trek Convention 18-20 July, 1992 The Central Hotel, Glasgow. Guests: Richard Arnold (STAR TREK Research Consultant), others to be announced. Star Trek episodes: Classic & Next Generation, films, quizzes/games, dealers room etc plus a Ceilidh and Scottish Folk Night. Registration: Adult (15 years+) - £30.00, Child 10-14 £15, under 10 Free. (Note: Children under 10 years must be accompanied by an adult. No creche facilities will be available.) Special discount for Silvercon '91 attendees - ask for details. Hotel rates (per person per night): Single £26, Twin/Double £22, Triple £18, Quadruple £16. Price is for Bed & Breakfast and includes VAT and Service. £15 per person non-refundable deposit at time of booking. For further info send SAE to: Contagion, PO Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR.

**REC-CON:** The 34th British Star Trek Convention. 28th - 31st August, 1992 Guests to be confirmed. To be held at the Piccadilly Hotel, Manchester. Registration until 4/8/1992 £25.00. Room rates £28 per person per night in Twin/Double rooms. £40.00 per person per night in single room. Contact: Tina Hewett, 65 Park Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 1ST.

**MIDCON '92** The 11th Annual Midlands Convention, boldly going longer than any other, breaking new ground each year... October 2nd - 4th, 1992. Holiday Inn, Leicester. Registration: £30.00 until June 1992, then £35.00 thereafter (payment by instalments if required). Full details from: Terry Elson, 8 Ennerdale Close, Oadby, Leicester LE2 4TN.

**IFT CONVENTION '92** 9th-12th October 1992. Holiday Inn Leicester. Guests to be confirmed. Convention Charity to be chosen. PROGRAMME Video (Original/Next Generation), Art/Model Display, Dealers' Room (Professional/Clubs), Competitions (Art/Fiction/Poetry/Fancy Dress), Disco, Theme Party, A KLINGON HUNT???? Further details send an SASE to: IFT CON '92, Fiona Barrowclough, 129 Westfield Road, Wellingborough, Northants NN8 3HN.

**UFP HOLIDAY TREK 92** Larnaca, Cyprus. 6th-9th November, 1992. A Trek con and holiday in Cyprus at much lower cost than with holiday tour operators. £285 for the weekend, or stay a week for £360: cost includes bed and breakfast, flights and con registration. Hotel is the luxurious four star Palm Beach, flights on scheduled CyprusAir. Monthly payment plan available. Send SAE for further details to Kim Farey, 38 Rochford Avenue, Loughton, Essex IG10 2BS.

**T'KON 1992 - Star Trek Convention**

Guests, games, multiple video programmes, zine library, games rooms, multiple sales rooms, theme parties, stunt shows and lots, lots more. Registration for the weekend only £12.00 for an adult, £7.00 for one day. Full details available from Susan Whiffin, 12 Marlow Road, Hurley, Nr. Atherstone, Warks. CV9 2NG.

**WARP ONE:** The 35th British Star Trek Convention. 30th April - 3rd May, 1993  
At the Middleton Tower Holiday Centre, Morecambe, Lancs.  
Registration: £25 until 31/12/91, £30 thereafter. Under 16s half price, under 5s free. Day and supporting registrations available.  
Accommodation: £26.70 PPPN if paying before 18/3/93, £33.30 PPPN after 18/3/93. Under 16s half price, under 2s free. The rate is for full board accommodation. Guests to be announced, parties, disco, video programmes, the usual competitions plus some surprises. In aid of Cancer Research.  
For more details and a registration form send an SASE to Warp One, 69 Merlin Crescent, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 6JB.

**HOLODECK** The 36th British Star Trek Convention. 27th - 30th August, 1993  
Telford Moat House Hotel. In aid of the Invalid Childrens' Aid Nationwide Charity.  
Registration: Full £25, Fri/Sat or Sat/Sun £15, Sat/Sun £20, 1 day £10, Supporting £10. Child 10-16 half the above rates, under 10s free. Hotel Rates, per person per night, inclusive of full English Breakfast and VAT: £25 sharing a twin or double, £32 in a single. Send an SAE for further info and registration form to: Holodeck 93, P.O. Box 29, Hitchin, Herts SG4 9TG.

**1974-1993 BRITISH STAR TREK ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION** October 1st - 3rd, 1993. The Holiday Inn, Leicester. Registration: £40.00 until June 1993, then £45.00 thereafter (payment by instalments if required) - **SPECIAL DISCOUNT** for attendees of 1st **BRITISH STAR TREK CONVENTION - LEICESTER 1974**. Full details from: Terry Elson, 8 Ennerdale Close, Oadby, Leicester LE2 4TN.

**OVERSEAS CONVENTIONS**

**WINTER TREK:** February 22nd - 23rd, 1992. Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center, Burlington, Vermont, U.S.A. Registration \$45 (\$50 at door) for all events both days; \$25.00 (\$30 at door) for all events except the Saturday night dinner; \$15 (\$20 at door) for dealers room only. Hotel rates per room; single \$62, double \$72, triple \$82, quad \$92. For information contact Winter Trek, P.O. Box 1176, Waitsfield, Vermont 05673-1176, U.S.A.

**SEA TREK CRUISE:** Cruise Trek presents A Tribute to Trek Fans. June 5-8, 1992 on Norwegian Cruise Line's Starship **SOUTHWARD**. Sail from LA to Catalina & Ensenada, Mexico. Cruise along with 10 or more of the Star Trek and Star Trek The Next Generation cast. Enjoy 3 days and nights of unforgettable Star Trek fun! Price includes stateroom accommodations, all meals, entertainment, and Trek activities, plus special collectors' gifts. Price per person ranges from \$472 to \$770 plus \$33 port charges and \$27 pre-paid gratuities. Call Cruise Trek Now! (818)597-7570 (USA) or (800)745-7545 (USA).

**WIN A FREE CRUISE!** Enter the Trek Fan of The Year contest. For a contest application, send a self-addressed envelope (+ 2 IRCs) to: Cruise Trek, 5330 Derry Avenue, Suite F, Agoura Hills, CA 91301, U.S.A. No purchase necessary. Must be 18 to enter. Paramount is no way associated with Cruise Trek 92 which is produced by Cruises Cruises Cruises.

**NON STAR TREK EVENTS**

**WHO'S SEVEN:** Blakes 7/Dr Who Convention to be held on 30 Oct - 1 Nov 1992 at the Telford Moat House Hotel, Shropshire, England. For more information send a SSASE (SAE & IRC for overseas) to Henry Eggleton, "Valhalla", 137 High Street, Plaistow, Broadway, London E13 9HH.

## FRIENDSHIP COLUMN

Friendship adverts will be printed in one newsletter.

Hi! Desperately seeking anyone in the London area who has got the Blake's 7 TV series on video and who would welcome me to realise a lifetime's ambition, to see the rest of the Blake's 7 TV series. (Unfortunately I don't have a video). If you are in a position to reveal the mystery that is Avon to me please write to: Ms. Elena Bond, 65 Nutbourne Street, London W10 4HW.

Maria Woodward is looking for pen friends, both local and around the world, plus people to go to conventions with. Maria likes going to the pictures, concerts and travel and she likes a lot of different music but mainly Queen, Status Quo and Madonna. Please write to Maria Woodward, 'Ashcroft', East Street, Westbourne, Nr. Emsworth, Hants PO10 8SH.

Hi! I'm a 19 year old Trek fan who would like some penpals from anywhere in the world. I love both Classic and TNG, and enjoy reading Trek novels and comics. I like other SF/Fantasy TV shows as well. Also wanted: any information on a local Star Trek group in Belfast. If you know anything could you please contact me. Joanna Brennan, 58 Fortwilliam Park, Belfast, BT15 4AS, N. Ireland.

Would anyone like to write to a lonesome Scottish lass living in the Lake District, or has anyone any info about any local group? I'm madly into Star Trek and can't find anyone I can talk to about it. Write to Sharon Rigby, c/o Sawrey Hotel, Far Sawrey, Near Ambleside, Cumbria LA22 0LQ.

## SMALL ADS

Please note: All adverts are printed as a service to members and IDIC cannot accept any liability. Adverts will be printed in one newsletter only.

Please remember it is illegal to offer videos for sale, except for official copies - although there is no law against asking. It is also in breach of copyright to advertise photocopies of zines, and unfair to request them, without the permission of the editor. Adverts will therefore be edited if necessary.

Costumes Made. If you are prepared to buy the fabric and pattern for a costume I will be happy to put it together for you for a fee of about £1.00 an hour. But I must be given ample time if the costume is wanted for a particular time. I welcome all enquiries by post please. Miss S. Halsey, Starbase One, 9 Thornyville Drive, Oreston, Plymouth, Devon PL9 7LF.

FOR SALE: Various zines. Please send SAE for list to: Jill Searle, 33C Underdale Road, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 5DT.

FOR SALE: MARVELLOUS MEMORABILIA! Enshrine your favourite characters in a beautiful, top-quality, hand-made, solid glass, round paperweight. Perfect as a useful gift for a fellow fan or as a keepsake. Full details from PYWELL PAPERWEIGHTS, Pyewell, The Green, Westerham, Kent TN16 1AS

FOR SALE: Amega Software: ST:TNG Trivia Challenge (2 discs); Classic Trek Challenge Vols 1-5 (1 disc); Star Trek Game by T. Richter (2 discs); Star Trek Game by E. Gustafson (3 discs); Enterprise Leaves Dry Dock (animation, 1 Disc); Space War (1 disc). I will send any or all of these games etc... if you send the return postage and packaging or I will provide the discs on 3 1/2 or 5 1/4 in exchange for any item related to ST (zines/badges/books etc...). Cpl Moffat.G, Q.M. Stores, B.M.H. Hannover, B.F.P.O. 33.

FOR SALE: Blish paperbacks, zines and other Star Trek items. SAE to Julie Woolaston, 19 Stonebridge Road, Rassau, Ebbw Vale, Gwent NP3 5SL.

FOR SALE: I am selling the last of my Star Trek merchandise - plates, paintings etc. If interested contact Jenny Turner, 46 Chinnbrook Rd, Billesley, Birmingham B13 0LX.

WANTED: K/S zines T'za'du 1 & 2, Icefire, T'hy'la 2 (The Things I Cannot Change). If you can help please contact Jenny Turner (see above).

WANTED - Zines by Jenny Elson or Jane Carnall (ST or other). Also In The Wilderness, Voice 2, 3 or 4. Please reply to Lynne Baxter, 29 North Street, Caversham, Reading RG4 8JA.

WANTED: Can anyone help with audio cassettes of any of Tom Lehrer's albums? I would buy originals, or pay for copies. Valerie Piacentini, 20 Ardrossan Rd, Saltcoats, Ayrshire, KA21 5BW.

WANTED: 'I Am Not Spock' Autobiography by Leonard Nimoy. Also 'War of the Worlds' read by Leonard Nimoy on cassette. Please write to Peter Hughes, Bryn Myfyr West End, Glan Conwy, Colwyn Bay, Clwyd LL28 5SY.

WANTED: Any photos of Robert Lansing as Gary Seven in ST - 'Assignment Earth'. Also any small photos from any original series episodes. Please reply to Mrs. Rosemary Irving, 56 Exeter Road, Southville, Bristol BS3 1LZ.

WANTED: Original TV series and movies blooper reels. Either for a loan or sale. Please contact: J.P.J. Mullen, 56 Carleith Avenue, Duntocher, G81 6JA Scotland.

WANTED: I hope that someone can help me. I would like to borrow the Audio recording of the original Star Trek Animation episodes, (as I can't afford to buy all the animation episodes on video). I will pay postage both ways. If you have them please write to Mr. J. Green, Block 14, Door B, Flat 10, Carwana Dingli Street, San Gwann, Malta.

WANTED: Zines desperately wanted - Computer Playback 4 and 5. If you don't want to sell I will pay just to borrow these zines. Please write to Julie Woolaston, 19 Stonebridge Road, Rassau, Ebbw Vale, Gwent NP3 5SL.

WANTED: Does anyone have a copy of Brent Spiner's Album 'Ol Yellow Eyes is Back? Please contact Peter Hughes, Bryn Myfyr, West End, Glan Conwy, Colwyn Bay, LL28 5SY.

#### STAR TREK FAN AND ACTOR CLUBS UPDATE

We have available information sheets giving details of all the British Star Trek clubs and local groups we know about, plus actor clubs for Leonard Nimoy, DeForest Kelley, George Takei, Walter Koenig, Nichelle Nichols, Brent Spiner, Marina Sirtis and Guy Vardaman. If you would like a copy write and ask Janet; enclose at least a 9" x 6" SAE plus an extra loose 17p stamp.

Please enclose a SASE when writing to clubs for information.

GENESIS II Star Trek Club: Travel to the Frontiers of Fun with Genesis II, going boldly into a new look. Three newsletter per year, outings, meetings and even conventions (T'KON), Membership rate £4.00 per year. Full details available from Leigh Griffiths, 65 Linsworth Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham B30 3RN.

ATTENTION KLINGONS The Klingon Assault Group has come to Scotland. Any Scots out there who hear the cry of the warrior, who are willing to die for the honour of the empire (or perhaps just themselves a little) write to: Koiorth, 2 Isles Terrace, Newmains, Ayrshire, Scotland KA16 9JZ.

DREAMWEAVERS - a new Star Trek and cult TV club based in West Suffolk. Quarterly newsletter and two meetings a month. For more details contact Ursula Clarke, 10 Bunbury Road, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP32 6HT.

**OUTPOST ONE** - Opening hailing frequencies to all Trekkers who are fans of ORIGINAL Star Trek ONLY! Here is the club you've been waiting for: "OUTPOST ONE".

The "Open Union of Trekkers for the Preservation of ORIGINAL Star Trek", (and its cast and crew), welcomes members who believe in the original idea and form of IDIC, and who wish to keep the enthusiasm and the Dream alive.

Membership costs £8 per year for 6 newsletters and a membership package. The first Newsletter is available NOW! Payment by International Money Order in sterling, or cash in sterling. Please add 10% for exchange-rate bank charges. Please note that this club's language is English! Contact: Karen Hayden & Bettina Rackel, "OUTPOST ONE", Am Tannenbusch 31, 4192 Kaikar, West Germany

**OPERATION TRIBBLES** P.O. Box 543, Mendocino, C.A. 95460, U.S.A. This is a new fan club with the whose policy is to see that people in Resthomes receive a tribble, a teddy bear or some other cuddly toy. The club will also have pen pal lists, ads for items for trade and for sale, stories from members etc. There will be four newsletters a year, membership card and ST information when available. Foreign dues \$15.00. Operation Tribbles, P.O. Box 543, Mendocino, CA 95460, U.S.A.

**TRIBBLETALK:** America's best kept Star Trek secret! Send 2 IRCs (overseas) or a 9" by 4" SASE (US) to find out more about this exciting bi-monthly 18-22 page n/I. Find a Pen Friend!! Adopt a tribble! Enjoy Trek at its best! Tribbletalk, 20 S. Chestnut St., Oconomowoc, Wisconsin 53066, U.S.A.

**NEXT GEN:** Do you enjoy Star Trek: The Next Generation? Want to share your enthusiasm? NEXT GEN is a new ACT based fanclub full of news, ideas, friendship and fun! Interested? Then write to: The Secretary, Next Gen, P.O. Box 463, Civic Square, A.C.T. 2608, Australia. (PS We're non-profit too!)

**THE WILLIAM SHATNER CONNECTION** The Official William Shatner Fan Club. Membership entitles you to: The Connection, the clubs NewsZine, published quarterly; An 8x10 inch autographed picture of Bill; a complete updated copy of Bill's credits with an exclusive copy of his biography; plus an opportunity to make new friends, help other through active participation in Bill's charities and have the opportunity to purchase items from Marcy's private collection of jewellery or T-shirts. Dues U.S. \$17, Canada \$20, Foreign \$22. All funds must be in U.S. dollars or International Money Order. Send to: The William Shatner Connection, 7059 Atoll Avenue, North Hollywood, CA 91605, U.S.A.

**THE JAMES DOOHAN FAN CLUB:** No. 1-361, 13410 Preston Road, Dallas, Texas 75240, USA.

**ORION'S BELT SF CLUB:** A new club for fans of science fiction/fantasy television, cinema, books etc. Functions on a basis of members corresponding with each other, membership is free. Contact: James Bird, 4 Beresford Road, Chingford, London E4 6ED.

#### LOCAL GROUP NEWS

Is anyone interested in attending a one-day mini-Con in South Wales? I am thinking of trying to organise something very simple for Summer 1992 in Cardiff or Newport. If you would be interested, please let me know. Jacqueline Y Comben, Post Cottage, Rhossili, Gower, Swansea SA3 1PL.

Are there any Star Trek fans interested in starting a club in Dundee? Please get in touch with Stephen Rothwell, 20 Baxter Park Terrace, Dundee, DD4 6NP for more details.

**HULL STARFLEET** Video programme, social outings, competitions. Meeting dates (Sundays 12.00 noon - 4.30 pm) 1st December, 1991, 2nd February 1992 at 286 Dorothy House, Beverley Road, Hull (near 'Gas Flare'). Admission £1. For more information send an SAE to Tracy Beadle, 7 Lynwood Grove, Goddard Avenue, Hull HU5 2BE.

**FARPOINT** needs you! If you live in the Isle of Wight area then this new local group needs you. We are also looking for story zine writers who would like to have

their stories printed. Adult considered but no K/S. The zines planned so far are: Farpoint Classic Encounters, Encounters the Next Generation and to come in the far future, Strange Encounters for cross-overs and stories that would not fit into either universe. We are even considering non-Star Trek original material. So keep on dreaming up those plots. Write those stories. Philippa Timms, Silver Glade, 9 Grangeside, Shore Road, Bonchurch, Isle of Wight PO38, 1RW.

**THE LONDON STAR TREK GROUP:** bi-monthly, Saturday, 11.00 am - 7.00 pm. For everyone in or within travelling distance of London. Latest videos, games, discussions. First meeting November. Please send SAE for further information to Kim Farey, 38 Rochford Avenue, Loughton, Essex IG10 2BS.

**LEEDS STARFLEET:** SAE to Mike Mullen, 25 Claremont Road, Headingley, Leeds LS6 4EB. Meetings (incl. video programme) are held between 12 and 5pm on the following Sundays at the Headingley Community Centre, North Lane, Leeds: December 8th, January 12th, February 9th, March 8th, April 12th, May 10th, June 14th, July 12th, August 9th.

**THE AWAY TEAM:** Glasgow Star Trek Local Group. Meetings every 6 weeks approx. at the Central Hotel, Glasgow, 10.00am - 10.00pm. Come along and watch the latest videos - you will also get the chance to chat with other fans and to buy merchandise. Entry £5.00. Forthcoming dates: Sundays 8th December, 19th January, 1st March, 12th April, 24th May & 21st June. SAE for info to Catherine Melrose, 127 Medwyn Street, Glasgow G14 9QJ

**THE BRIDGE CREW:** - formerly The Landing Party. A local group based in the south east of Scotland. Fortnightly meetings at the Ailsa Craig Hotel. The group can be contacted at: Wester Auchinricoch Farm, Banton, Near Kilsyth G65 0QZ. Please enclose an SAE.

**NOTTINGHAM STAR TREK GROUP** meets on the first Wednesday of every month at Byrons (near Trinity Square/Central Police Station) in the city centre from about 7.30pm onwards. Write or ring Michael Butcher, 501 Beechdale Road, Aspley, Nottingham, tel. no. 0602 296323 for further info and confirmation of meeting dates.

**OPEN HOUSE** First weekend of every month but please phone first to check (081 985 0426). Zines for sale, tapes to watch, other fans to chat to. Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Hackney E9.

**STAR TREK: THE NEW GATHERING (U.S.S. Discovery).** Local meetings held in the Community Room St Helens Library monthly. Write for details to Sharon Rowe, 93 Juddfield Street, Haydock, St Helens, Merseyside WA11 0BD.

\*\*\*\*\*

The deadline for submissions (articles, reviews, ads, etc) for the next newsletter is January 8th (January 3rd for things sent to Sheila).

Copyright IDIC December 1991. All rights are reserved to the writers. No attempt is made to supersede any rights held by Paramount, NBC, BBC, CIC or any other holders of copyright in Star Trek material. Articles should not be reprinted without written permission. Factual information may be reprinted with appropriate credit.

The opinions stated in this newsletter are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

Send to:-

Janet - Subscriptions/Renewals; Cuttings and information; typed articles, reviews, letters etc; used stamps for The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

Sheila - All zine orders; hand written letters, articles and reviews; submissions of TNG stories, poetry & artwork for zines; used stamps.

Valerie - Submissions of Classic Trek stories, poetry & artwork for zines; used

stamps.

Helen - Submissions of crosswords, quizzes etc.

#### Committee Addresses:

Janet Quarton, 15 Letter Daill, Cairnbaan, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8SX, Scotland  
 Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee DD3 0PH, Scotland  
 Valerie Piacentini, 20 Ardrossan Road, Saltcoats, Ayrshire KA21 5EW, Scotland  
 Helen White, 34 Fletcher Gardens, Binfield, Bracknell, Berks RG12 1FJ

Dues UK £6.50, USA/Middle East Air \$23.00 (£12.25), Australia £13.50, Europe £8.50.

#### DATA PROTECTION ACT

This is a statutory notice as prescribed by the above Act. In accordance with the conditions governing the maintenance of machine-readable records by non-incorporated members' clubs, IDIC must advise that the names and addresses of every member are held in a computer-readable format in order to more efficiently prepare and despatch newsletters. The information is used for this purpose only, and will not be disclosed to any other party whatsoever without the specific consent of the Data Subject (i.e. the member concerned). You should also be aware that you have a statutory right for your name to be deleted from the computer record and for your newsletters to be addressed manually.

## CONTENTS

Actor Info	15	Silvercon - John de Lancie	51
Answers to Puzzles	77	Silvercon Report	53
Book & Video Reviews	71	Star Trek in the News	12
Classic Trek Reviews	67	Star Trek Crossword	64
Comments on K'Ehleyr	58	Star Trekkin' (and proud of it)	61
Con Ads/General Ads	81	Star Trek Puzzle	63
Latest Star Trek News	11	ST:TNG Episode Reviews	68
Merchandise	14	ST:TNG Third Season Info	55
Midcon - CIC	43	ST:TNG Word Workout	65
Midcon - Report	46	T'Kon Report	48
Midcon - Richard Arnold	44	Trouble Being a Trekker	59
My Kind of Trek	65	Zine Ads	78
Pardon Me, Is This Planet...	50	Zines - New Zines	77
Postbag	16	Zine Reviews	75

Typing by Janet & Sheila; layout, initial edit and printing of masters by Janet; proof-reading and final edit by Sheila and Valerie.

Printed by Urban Print, 57 Perth Road, Dundee. Packed by Sheila's Chain Gang. 850 copies.

#### STOP PRESS

#### Film Review, December 1991

"Stop Press: Star Trek VII given the go-ahead. And it will be, erm, a joint Enterprise, with Kirk and Co time-warped into the future, and close-encountering their Next Generation counterparts..." (info Fiona Campbell)

*Ed: We can't guarantee the truth of the above.*